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**KENDALL COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**  
110 W. Madison Street • Court Room • Yorkville, IL • 60560  
(630) 553-4141 Fax (630) 553-4179

## **AGENDA**

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August 18, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.

### CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Eric Bernacki, Elizabeth Flowers, Kristine Heiman (Secretary), Marty Shanahan (Vice-Chair), and Jeff Wehrli (Chair)

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes of May 19, 2025, Meeting (Pages 3-5)  
Approval of Minutes of June 16, 2025, Gathering (Page 6)  
Approval of Minutes of July 21, 2025, Meeting (Pages 7-65)

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval of a Letter of Support for the Application of Landmark Status for the Norway Temperance Hall (Pages 66-71)
2. Nomination of Officers for 2025-2026
3. Conference on Illinois History-October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Follow-Up Discussion of the July 21, 2025, Historic Preservation Group Meeting and Plans for Future Meetings
2. Update on Certified Local Government Grant and Historic Structure Survey (Page 72)
3. Discussion of Having Commission Meetings at Historic Locations in the County; Commission Could Determine Meeting Locations and Times (Pages 73-74)
4. Discussion of Native American Tribes Associated with Kendall County (Page 75)
5. Discussion of 13860 Fox Road (Pages 76-77)
6. Discussion of Amendments to the Kendall County Code Pertaining to Commission Review of Certain Building Permit Applications; Commission Could Recommend Amendments to the Kendall County Code and/or Approve a New Policy for Review of Certain Building Permit Applications (Page 78)
7. Discussion of Landmarking Cemeteries and Funding Sources for Cemeteries (Pages 79-118)

### CORRESPONDENCE:

1. May 17, 2025, Email from the Edith Farnsworth House Regarding Three Ways You Can Support Farnsworth (Page 119)

2. May 20, 2025, Email from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. Regarding a June 5, 2025, Webinar on An Integrated Approach to Repairs and Maintenance in the Process Industry (Pages 120-122)
3. May 31, 2025, Email from the Edith Farnsworth House Regarding Quarterly News and Updates (Pages 123-126)
4. June 10, 2025, Email from the Edith Farnsworth House Regarding Roots and Reflections Dinner (Pages 127-128)
5. June 27, 2025, Email from the Edith Farnsworth House Regarding Support for the Edith Farnsworth House (Pages 129-131)
6. July 1, 2025, Email from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. Regarding a July 16, 2025, Webinar on Mitigating Problems and Improving Durability in Water and Wastewater Infrastructure (Pages 132-133)
7. July 8, 2025, Email from the Edith Farnsworth House Regarding Your Summer, Curated at Farnsworth (Pages 134-136)
8. July 17, 2025, Email from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. Regarding a July 30, 2025, Webinar on Keep the Lights On: Managing Large Power Generation Assets (Pages 137-138)
9. Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund Information (Pages 139-142)
10. August 2025 Edition of The Bell Tower (Pages 143-146)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT: Next Meeting September 15, 2025

If special accommodations or arrangements are needed to attend this County meeting, please contact the Administration Office at 630-553-4171, a minimum of 24-hours prior to the meeting time.

**KENDALL COUNTY  
Historic Preservation Commission  
Kendall County Historic Court House  
110 W. Madison Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560  
6:00 p.m.  
May 19, 2025-Unofficial Until Approved**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Elizabeth Flowers, Kristine Heiman (Secretary) (Arrived at 6:02 p.m.), Marty Shanahan (Vice-Chair), and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: Eric Bernacki,

Also Present: Wanda A. Rolf, Part-Time Office Assistant

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to approve the agenda. With a voice vote of three (3) ayes, the motion carried.

Member Heiman arrived at this time (6:02 p.m.).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2025, meeting. With a voice vote of four (4) ayes, the motion carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

***Approval of the Purchase of Three Plaques for Historic Preservation Awards and Related Invoice from Leo's Trophies, Gifts and Engraving in an Amount Not to Exceed \$471.00; Related Invoice To Be Paid from Historic Preservation Commission Line Item (11001902-63830)***

Member Heiman made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan, to approve the expenditure.

The votes were as follows:

Ayes (4): Flowers, Heiman, Shanahan, and Wehrli

Nays (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Absent (1): Bernacki

The motion carried.

***Discussion of July 21, 2025, Historic Preservation Group Meeting***

***Review of Speakers and Agenda for Meeting***

***Review of Invitee Meeting List***

HPC Meeting Minutes 5.19.25

Page 1 of 3

### ***Other Meeting Logistics***

It is not yet known who the speaker will be on the history of the Ellis House.

Commissioners reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Ken Itle will speak about the Historic Structure survey of Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships. Mr. Itle will speak on Landmarking Historic Cemeteries.

Commissioners reviewed the list of invitees. The Township Supervisors were added to the list.

Member Heiman asked if the invitees of the Gaylord House were the new owners or previous owners. Chairman Wehrli will find out the answer to the question. Member Heiman stated that the sale of The Gaylord House closed in April 2025.

Commissioners reviewed the save-the-date card.

Commissioners discussed the historic structure surveys of Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### ***Update on Certified Local Government Grant and Historic Structure Survey***

Commissioners discussed the schedule on the on the Historic Structure Survey of Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships.

#### ***Discussion of Having Commission Meetings at Historic Locations in the County; Commission Could Determine Meeting Locations and Times***

Commissioners discussed the possibility of having a regular meeting at LaSalle Manor Retreat Center this fall and a summer meeting in 2026. Chairman Wehrli will reach out to Mr. Asselmeier about contacting LaSalle Manor Retreat for meetings.

#### ***Discussion of Native American Tribes Associated with Kendall County***

Commissioners reviewed an email from the Edith Farnsworth House regarding their earlier planned Pow Wow event and contacts with Native Americans.

In an email to Mr. Asselmeier dated, April 22, 2025, the Farnsworth House is open to having an event about Native American Tribes alongside with Kendall County Historic Preservation, possibly in October or another time.

Member Heiman asked if Aurora University had any Native American Gatherings. They had them in the past. Chairman Wehrli will check with Mr. Asselmeier.

#### ***Discussion of 13860 Fox Road***

Commissioners reviewed an email from the State regarding the roof replacement at the subject property. Anna Margaret Barris stated that a new roof is being installed and should be completed by the summer.

Chairman Wehrli stated that once the roof is completed the commissioners can view the property.

***Discussion of Amendments to the Kendall County Code Pertaining to Commission Review of Certain Building Permit Applications; Commission Could Recommend Amendments to the Kendall County Code and/or Approve a New Policy for Review of Certain Building Permit Applications***

Chairman Wehrli spoke with Seth Wormley to discuss the policy. Mr. Wormley stated the County Board did not want to take demolition permits and give them to the Historic Preservation Commission to decide if they are historically significant. Chairman Wehrli also stated that there are two (2) townships that are having historic structure surveys this year. He also stated that it may put a burden on the Planning Building and Zoning Department.

Member Heiman stated that she thought the Historic Preservation would receive notification of a historic structure to be demolished and decide if it was historically significant. Chairman Wehrli will speak to Mr. Asselmeier to see if this is something achievable.

***Discussion of Landmarking Cemeteries and Funding Sources for Cemeteries***

Commissioners discussed the possibility of having some of the cemeteries maintained. Ken Itle will speak at the summer meeting regarding landmarking cemeteries and the benefits of landmarking cemeteries.

In a past meeting Member Bernacki stated that many townships perform their own maintenance on cemeteries. In a previous meeting, Mr. Asselmeier stated that he would like to wait until the six (6) new supervisors from the townships are sworn in before he reached out to the townships.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Member Flowers made a motion, seconded by Member Heiman, to adjourn. With a voice vote of four (4) ayes, the motion carried. The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Wanda A. Rolf  
Part-Time Office Assistant

**KENDALL COUNTY  
Historic Preservation Commission  
Kendall County Historic Court House  
110 W. Madison Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560  
5:30 p.m.  
June 16, 2025-Unofficial Until Approved**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Eric Bernacki and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: Elizabeth Flowers, Kristine Heiman (Secretary), and Marty Shanahan (Vice-Chair)

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier, Director, and Wanda A. Rolf, Part-Time Office Assistant

Due to an absence of a quorum, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew H. Asselmeier  
Director

**KENDALL COUNTY  
Historic Preservation Commission  
Historic Preservation Organization Meeting  
Ellis House and Equestrian Center  
13986 McKanna Road  
Minooka, IL 6047  
5:30 p.m.  
July 21, 2025-Unofficial Until Approved**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jeff Wehrli called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present Kristine Heiman (Secretary), Marty Shanahan (arrived at 6:06 p.m.), and Jeff Wehrli (Chairman)

Absent: Eric Bernacki and Elizabeth Flowers

Also Present: Matt Asselmeier, Lily I. Smogor, Jane Burke, Tim O'Brien, Sarah Skilton, Mike Hoffman, Eric Gray, Kathy Vorbau, Sharleen Smith, Susan Kritzberg, Nancy Herkes, Joe Noce, Johanna Byram, and Lisa Wolancevich

**WELCOMING REMARKS**

Jeff Wehrli, Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission Chairman, welcomed the attendees to the semiannual Historic Preservation Meeting. Chairman Wehrli stated that upon receipt of a grant from the State, research has begun to identify areas of historic significance within Seward and Na-Au-Say Townships.

**PRESENTATION ON THE HISTORY OF THE ELLIS HOUSE**

David Guritz, Executive Director of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District, delivered a presentation on the history of the Ellis House and the surrounding Baker Woods. He discussed the naming history and prehistoric character of the preserve. Director Guritz further discussed the settlement and migration history of the Indigenous and European inhabitants of Kendall County. He also reviewed the history of land acquisitions for the Baker Woods Forest Preserve.

Sharleen Smith clarified that the Seward Town Hall, formerly located within one of the Preserve's land acquisitions, had been relocated to Lyon Farm, where it is undergoing restoration.

Director Guritz mentioned the restoration and protection of a rare oak savanna ecosystem as a goal of Baker Woods and the ongoing work of Ellis House to maintain its equestrian program.

Chairman Wehrli asked if Director Guritz knew when the Ellis House was built. Director Guritz stated that the house was built in the 1990s but made to look as if it was older.

Chairman Wehrli discussed the importance of the presentation for showcasing the total history of the land in addition to that of the Ellis House and Baker Woods. He then relayed the story of the mastodon bones found in the area near Baker Woods.

Sharleen Smith asked if Director Guritz was working with the County to preserve the open green spaces on either side of the Aux Sable Creek and expressed concern about the direction of warehouse and solar farm development within the County. Director Guritz clarified that the County Board and the Forest Preserve Board of Commissioners were comprised of the same officials, and that the County Board members valued both open

space and economic development and sought to obtain a balance between the two (2). He stated that Kendall County had similar rates of green space preservation to the surrounding regions of Kane, Will, and DuPage Counties. Director Guritz discussed current and future tax practices and potentials for the Forest Preserve District.

An audience member asked about an Economic Opportunity Grant received in 2008. Director Guritz stated that the County often pursued grants to enable land acquisitions.

Member Shanahan arrived at the close of the presentation, at 6:06 pm.

### **PRESENTATION ON THE HISTORIC STRUCTURE SURVEY OF NA-AU-SAY AND SEWARD TOWNSHIPS**

Kenneth Itle, Associate Principal with Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., delivered a presentation on the rural historic structure survey of Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships. He discussed the goals of the project for surveying settlement history and architectural context, as well as documentation and recommendation of sites for historic landmarking. Mr. Itle briefly discussed previous rural structure surveys in other parts of Kendall County. He outlined the process of the structure surveys, including research, the creation of a database, map development, and field surveys. Mr. Itle then expressed the need for local volunteers for the field surveys and provided an overview of work done during a survey. He also explained the landmark designation process for historic sites.

Chairman Wehrli asked about the timeframe for the structure surveys. Mr. Itle responded that the field work is scheduled to begin in August and may last until around Christmas.

Susan Kritzberg expressed concern about earlier field surveys conducted in the winter months, as the weather conditions made work difficult and property owners expressed greater caution upon seeing volunteers on their property. She also recommended the creation of lanyards for volunteers so as to make their purpose easily identifiable to property owners. Mr. Itle agreed.

Lisa Wolancevich stated that the Kendall County Historical Society received calls from concerned property owners due to the presence of volunteers on their land. Mr. Itle mentioned the difficulty in publicizing the presence of volunteers.

An audience member asked if any buildings from the previous surveys had been landmarked. Mr. Itle stated that there were none to his knowledge.

Mr. Asselmeier stated that the County plan was to conduct structure surveys in all nine (9) townships, followed by a preservation plan dependent on grant funding. Chairman Wehrli mentioned that the current pace of survey was two (2) townships per year, which Mr. Itle stated would result in completion significantly faster than nearby Will County.

### **PRESENTATION ON LANDMARKING CEMETERIES THE HISTORIC STRUCTURE SURVEY OF NA-AU-SAY AND SEWARD TOWNSHIPS**

Chairman Wehrli introduced the presentation with discussion of the recent rediscovery of a historic cemetery within Yorkville. He asked whether the townships were responsible for their cemeteries, to which Matt Asselmeier clarified that townships were responsible for the burial of paupers, which necessitates access to cemeteries for that purpose.

Mr. Itle delivered a presentation on the landmarking of historic cemeteries during the historic structure survey of Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships. He noted that cemeteries can be landmarked for their historic, artistic

and cultural significance. Mr. Itle discussed the criteria for landmark cemeteries, such as design, social and community history, development history, and other factors not including religion. He explained the reluctance to landmark the graves of individual famous people unless the gravesites have a specific artistic quality or have taken on a greater cultural meaning separate from the legacy of the interred individual. He further explained the importance of historic integrity in landmarking sites and cemeteries before moving into examples of landmarked cemeteries.

An audience member asked if an archaeological site listed on the National Historic Register (the Evelyn Site) within Kendall County was a Native American gravesite. Mr. Itle stated that it likely was a Native American site and noted that the lack of public information was intended to prevent tampering with the gravesite.

Chairman Wehrli discussed the importance of recovering and maintaining historic family cemeteries within the county.

An audience member discussed a visit taken by a Daughters of the American Revolution chapter to a nearby historic cemetery and expressed her desire to repair and maintain historic gravesites.

An audience member asked if the county had or could have local historic designation for cemeteries that may not qualify for the National Register. Matt Asselmeier stated that the Historic Preservation Ordinance allow for local landmarking.

Chairman Wehrli discussed the use of 1939 aerial photography by the County to identify historic sites. Mr. Asselmeier added that historical photography, plat surveys, and other maps were all available for public reference on the County's GIS webpage.

An audience member described a cemetery within Seward Township, asking if that cemetery would be a potential survey location. Mr. Itle stated that it would and that the survey aimed to include other structures of rural character, such as churches, one-room schoolhouses, and town halls.

An audience member asked if two buildings located on Lyon Farm, relocated from the area of survey, would be included as they were sited within the survey scope. Mr. Itle stated that he would likely include such structures in his summary report but not in the survey itself.

### **ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**

Susan Kritzberg, representative of the Chapel on the Green, along with Chapel board member Nancy Herkes, discussed a recent designation as a site member of the Underground Railroad by the National Parks Service in 2023, as well as a grant application for an Illinois State Historic Marker celebrating the history of the Chapel. Ms. Kritzberg discussed the inclusion of the historic Bristol Baptist Church in the Underground Railroad recognition project. She stated that the Chapel on the Green has received its historic marker, which will be unveiled and dedicated in October. Representative Lauren Underwood and Bill Furry of the Illinois State Historical Society will speak at the event. Ms. Kritzberg stated that she would welcome a speaker from the County for the event as well. Ms. Kritzberg then moved into discussion of preservation work within the Chapel on the Green itself. She stated that the stained glass windows, a unique feature of the chapel, are overdue for restoration. She then discussed future fundraising for the restoration of the windows. Ms. Kritzberg discussed the importance of keeping the Chapel on the Green relevant for the current community.

Chairman Wehrli explained the process of uneven thickening undergone by old glass to provide context for the window restoration. Ms. Kritzberg stated that the smaller, south-facing windows of the Chapel had undergone that process. She highlighted the unique art nouveau styling of the windows and reiterated the historic marker dedication event.

Sharleen Smith, Seward Township, stated that the Township would be doing well if they could get its comprehensive plan passed. She reiterated community fears of losing open space and trees, especially along the Aux Sable Creek.

Lisa Wolancevich and Johanna Byram, Yorkville Historical Preservation and Kendall County Historical Society, stated that they are trying to revitalize the Yorkville Preservation Society. Chairman Wehrli asked how the road construction along Route 71 was doing, and both members stated that they had decided not to seek re-election to the Historical Society's board. They further discussed pending mural projects within Yorkville as well as preservation work at the Stone Church and another church within Mission Township. Ms. Byram discussed documentation of Bristol Station and the McCain Hotel.

Eric Gray and Kathy Vorbau, recent owners of the Gaylord House and Gardens, discussed their restoration practices and expressed gratitude for the help of local historical organizations.

Mike Hoffman, Teska Associates, discussed the Kendall County Comprehensive Plan effort and highlighted his organization's resident surveys. He stated that he had heard similar concerns of protecting green space at other meetings within the County and encouraged attendants to fill out his survey indicating important places within the County. Mr. Asselmeier directed attendants to both the paper and online surveys at [www.visionkendall.org](http://www.visionkendall.org).

Joe Noce, Little White School Museum and Oswegoland Park District, discussed his effort to understand what drove visitors to the museum by hosting various low-cost programs, noting that the results were largely inconclusive. He highlighted an upcoming history hike at Saw-Wee-Kee Park, a downtown Oswego history walk and trivia night, and a history book club meeting as important future events for the museum. He also discussed the recent unveiling of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Park history exhibit.

Sarah Skilton, Oswego Public Library District, discussed the digitization of microfilm copies of local newspapers. She discussed a new mural project and urban barn tours. She also stated that the Oswego Library possessed cemetery records and historic plat books. Chairman Wehrli mentioned an earlier attempt to hold a meeting in the urban barn that was prohibited by a lack of ADA-compliant accessibility. Ms. Skilton responded that the library was working on making the barn accessible.

Jane Burke, Naperville Preservation Society, discussed her efforts to raise awareness of historic preservation in Naperville. She advocated for Oak Cottage, located in the Greene Valley Forest Preserve and constructed in 1851. She stated that the cottage and associated barn could be demolished by the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, if an adaptive reuse is not established. She asked attendants to tell any entrepreneurs interested in the space that they had until October to express a statement of interest in the cottage to prevent its demolition. Ms. Burke and other attendants briefly discussed local individuals and stakeholders related to the Greene Valley Forest Preserve.

David Guritz, Executive Director of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District, discussed the final steps of the Subat Nature Center project and expressed his thanks to the Little White School Museum for their contributions to the project. He stated that a trail project to connect Subat Forest Preserve and the Fox River Bluffs was underway, and a grant application for the removal of the Little Rock Dam had been submitted.

Matt Asselmeier stated that Michelle from the Three Rivers Library District had been unable to attend the meeting, but that she wanted to publicize her library's museum in Minooka. She also wanted to go on record expressing concern that the widening of Ridge Road in Minooka would result in the destruction of a number of historic homes.

### **DISCUSSION OF FUTURE MEETING(S)**

Chairman Wehrli spoke about future meetings; Mr. Asselmeier asked for information on a speaker for the Evelyn Site. Another audience member stated that the information for the site was housed at Northwestern University, but did not identify a speaker.

Susan Kritzberg mentioned the former Blackberry Mill millstones, which are now distributed across the County. She discussed the recent donation of a millstone to the Chapel on the Green, as well as the other locations of historic millstones.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

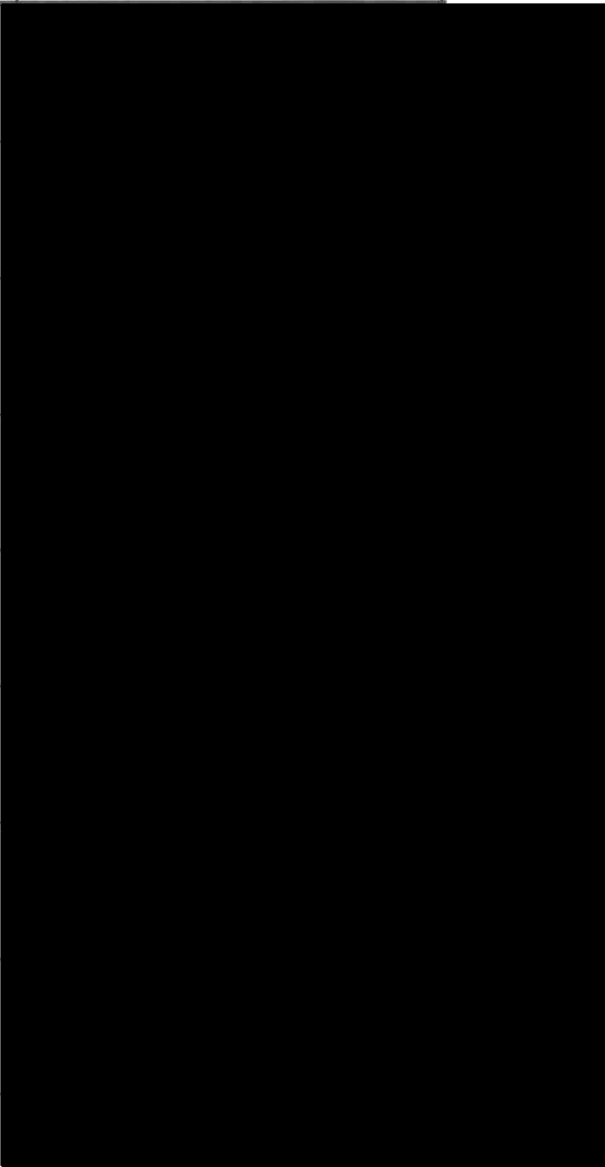
Member Heiman made a motion, seconded by Member Shanahan to adjourn. With a voice vote of three (3) ayes, the motion carried. The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lily I. Smogor  
PBZ Intern

Encs.

**KENDALL COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
JULY 21, 2025**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONTACTED ON FUTURE MEETINGS REGARDING THIS TOPIC, PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR ADDRESS OR EMAIL ADDRESS

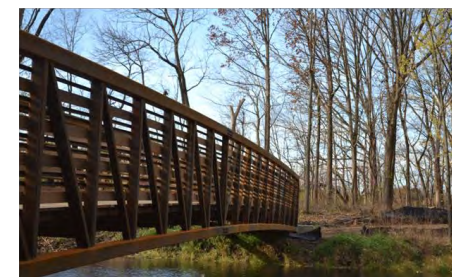
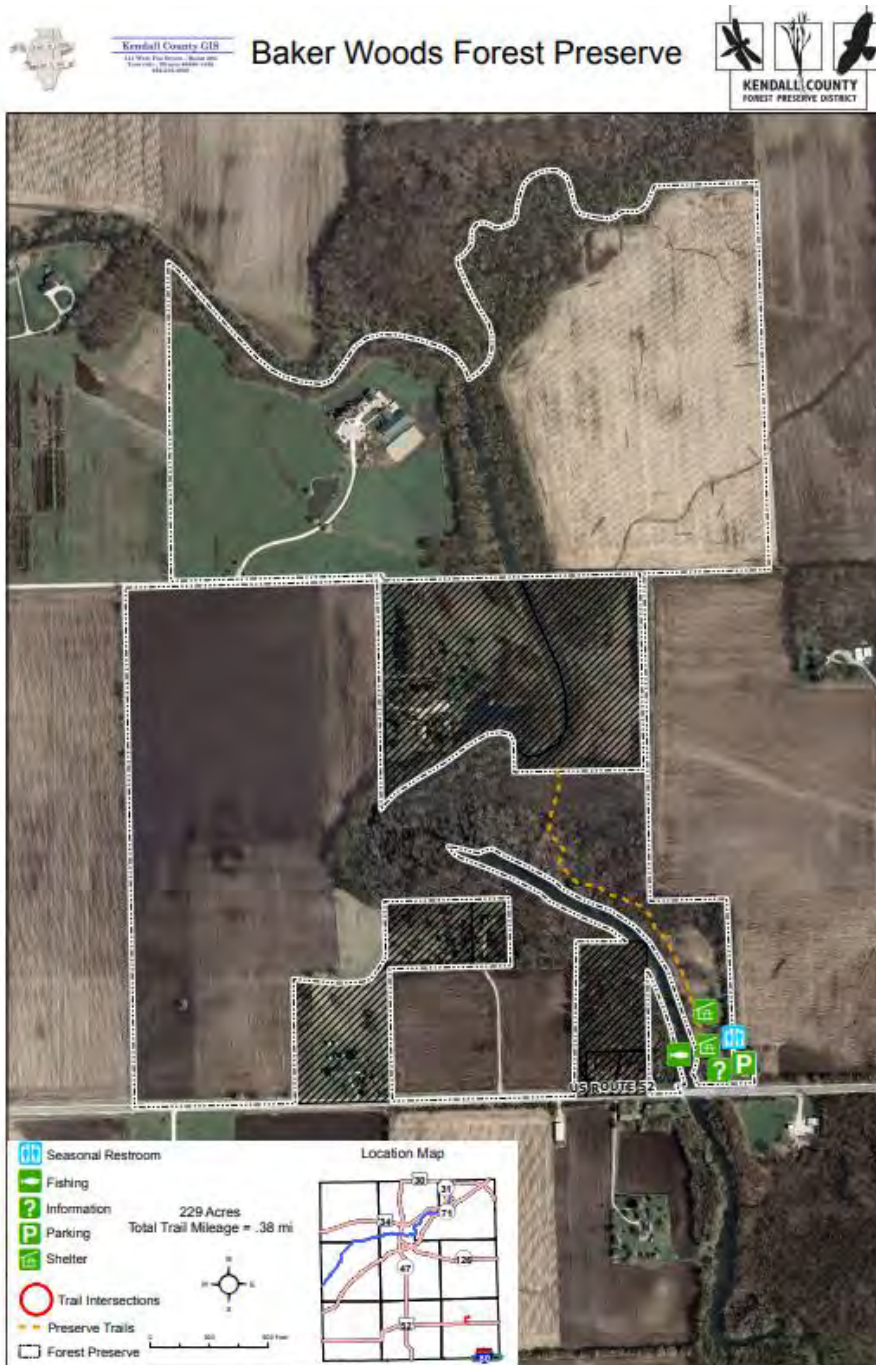
| NAME                                        | ADDRESS<br>(OPTIONAL) | EMAIL ADDRESS<br>(OPTIONAL)                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June Burke<br>Naperville Preservation, Inc. |                       |  |
| Wg Sro<br>PBZ intem                         |                       |                                                                                      |
| Jim O'Brien                                 |                       |                                                                                      |
| Sarah Skier                                 |                       |                                                                                      |
| Mike Hoffman                                |                       |                                                                                      |
| ERIC GRAY<br>Kathy Verbaan                  |                       |                                                                                      |
| SHARLEEN SMITH                              |                       |                                                                                      |
| Susan Ketchum                               |                       |                                                                                      |

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**KENDALL COUNTY  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
JULY 21, 2025**

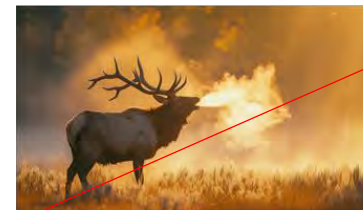
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONTACTED ON FUTURE  
MEETINGS REGARDING THIS TOPIC, PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR  
ADDRESS OR EMAIL ADDRESS

| NAME           | ADDRESS<br>(OPTIONAL) | EMAIL ADDRESS<br>(OPTIONAL) |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Nancy Henley   |                       |                             |
| Joe Noce       |                       |                             |
| Johanne Byran  |                       |                             |
| Lisa Wolancuch |                       |                             |
| JEFF GERRI     |                       |                             |
|                |                       |                             |
|                |                       |                             |
|                |                       |                             |



# Baker's Woods Forest Preserve Overview of Natural and Cultural History

# Kendall County Glacial Topography



1936

Illinois State Academy of Science

had formed the mire. Masked by rank vegetation in summer and lightly frozen over in winter, this bog, with its tempting spring at center, had formed a trap which tempted animals to come into it to drink, and from time to time had ensnared numbers of them. Common humus acids developed by decaying vegetation had preserved the bones while the flesh was carried away in the usual processes of decay.

A cross-section of the spring had been constructed from data furnished by Judge Bedford.

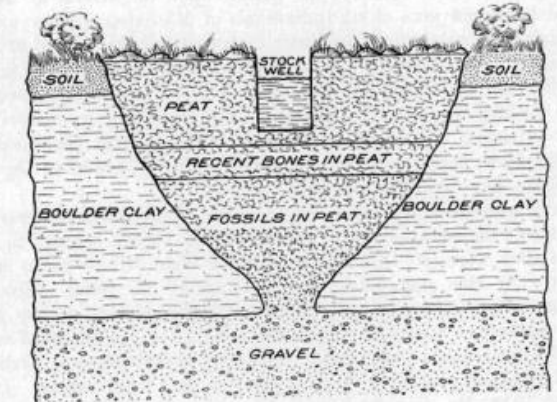


Fig. 1.—SECTION THROUGH PEAT BOG ON THE BAMFORD FARM NEAR MINOOKA, ILLINOIS, as explored in 1902 and in 1929, showing basin eroded by spring in boulder clay, and filled with peaty matter; stratum of water-bearing gravel and layers of recent and fossil bones. Width of basin at surface 20 feet; depth from surface to gravel stratum, 14 feet; width of opening into basin below, 3 feet; layer of recent bones, 20 inches; of fossil bones, 7 feet.

## LIST OF ANIMALS DETERMINED

### MASTODON AMERICANUM

Parts of nine individuals. One skull, two pairs lower jaws and various bones of two mature adults.  
Two pairs humeri and femora of young adults, mandibles and maxillaries of five young individuals.

### ELEPHAS COLUMBI

One mandible, tusk and other bones, apparently a female.

### CELVACES SPECIES

One craneum with half beams of antlers.  
One entire beam of antler with part of palm.  
One metacarpal bone.

### ALCES SP.

One broken antler.

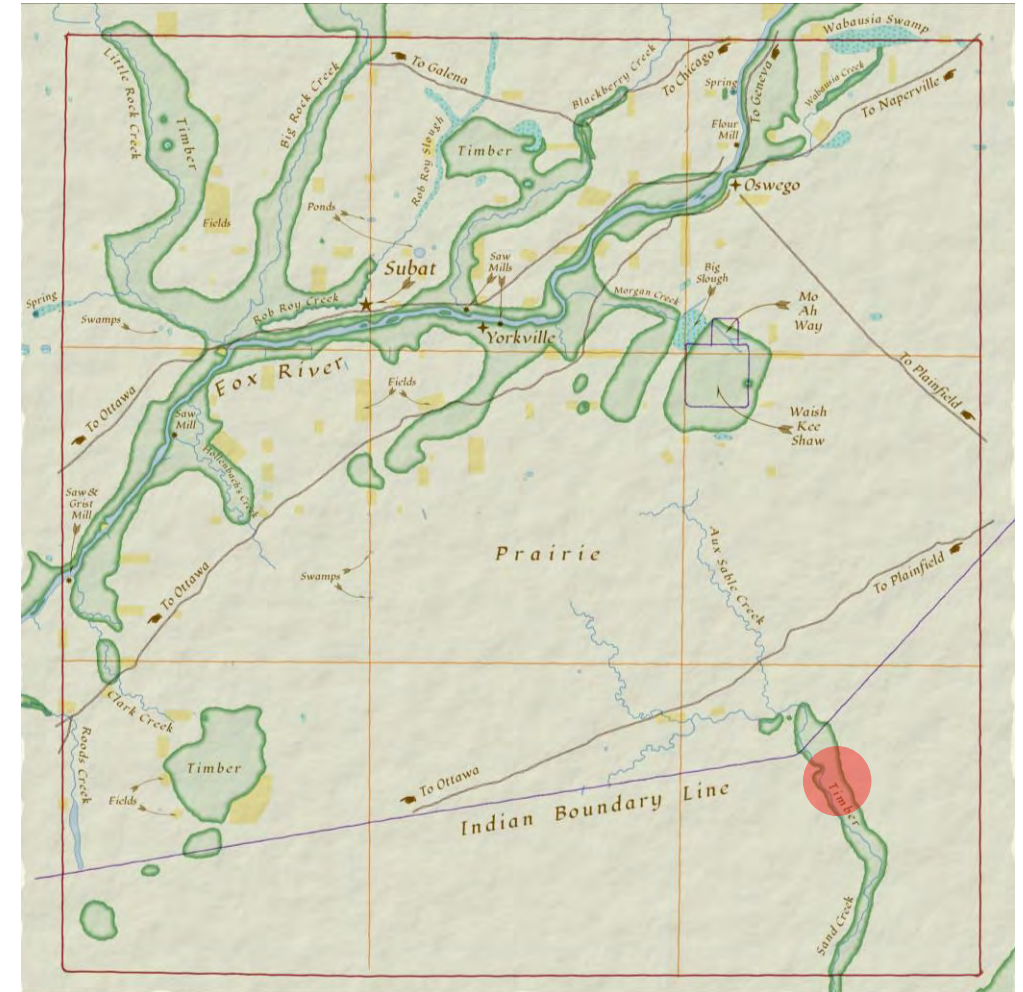
### CERVUS SP.

One broken antler.

### BISON BISON

Miscellaneous bones of many individuals.

Survey Map  
of  
**KENDALL COUNTY**  
ILLINOIS  
1820 - 1840



# 1820's-30's Land Survey – Original Land Cover - Indian Boundary Line



## **Indian Boundary Line**

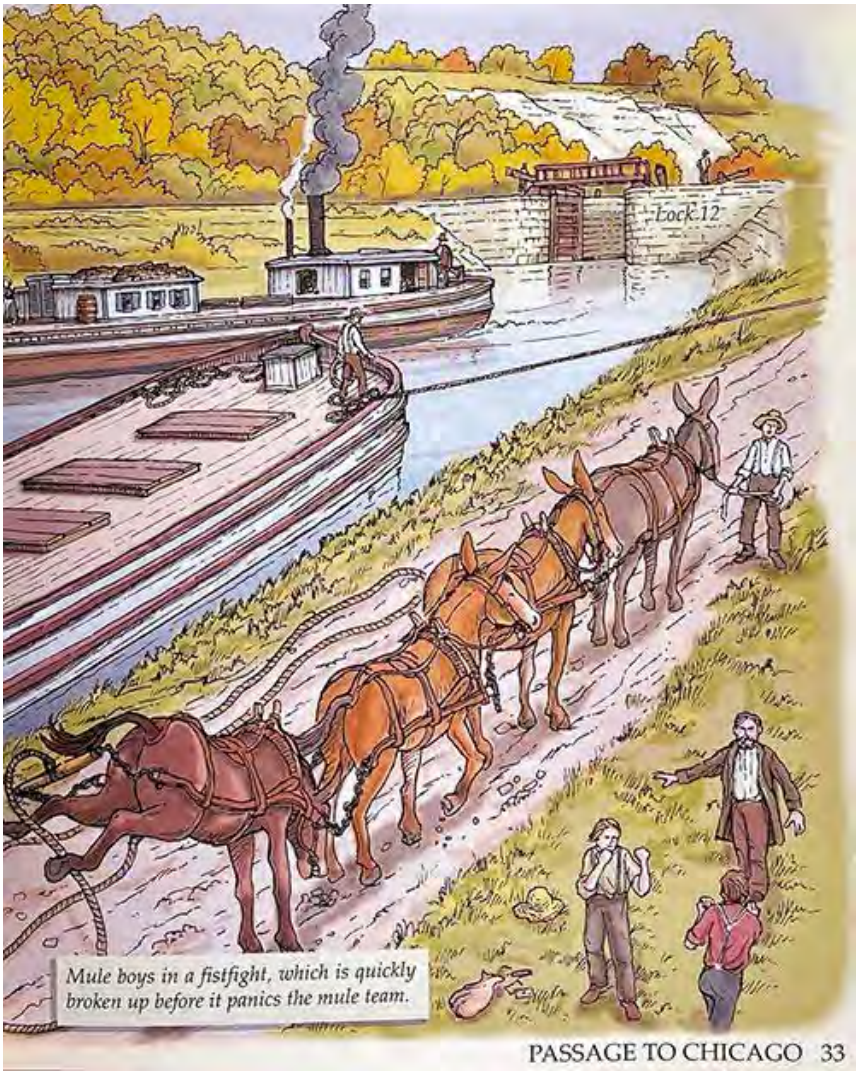
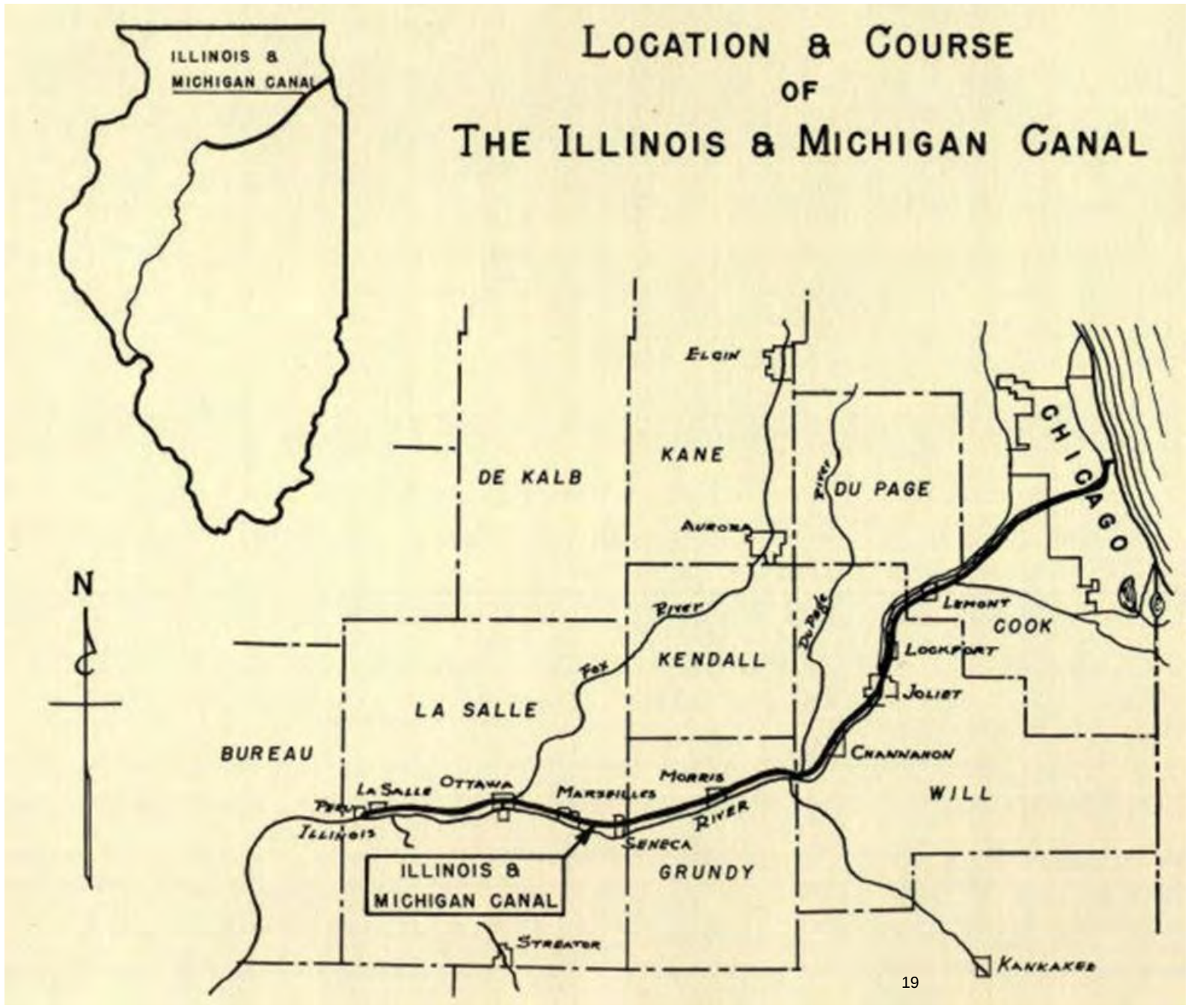
*The line was a significant feature in the area, with lands south of the line surveyed in 1821 and lands north surveyed later. The Indian Boundary Line was a result of the need for traders to travel safely between Chicago and Ottawa.*

The Indian Boundary Line impacting Kendall County, Illinois, was established by the Treaty of St. Louis of 1816.

This treaty was negotiated between the United States government and the Ojibwe, Ottawa, and Potawatomi tribes (the Council of Three Fires).

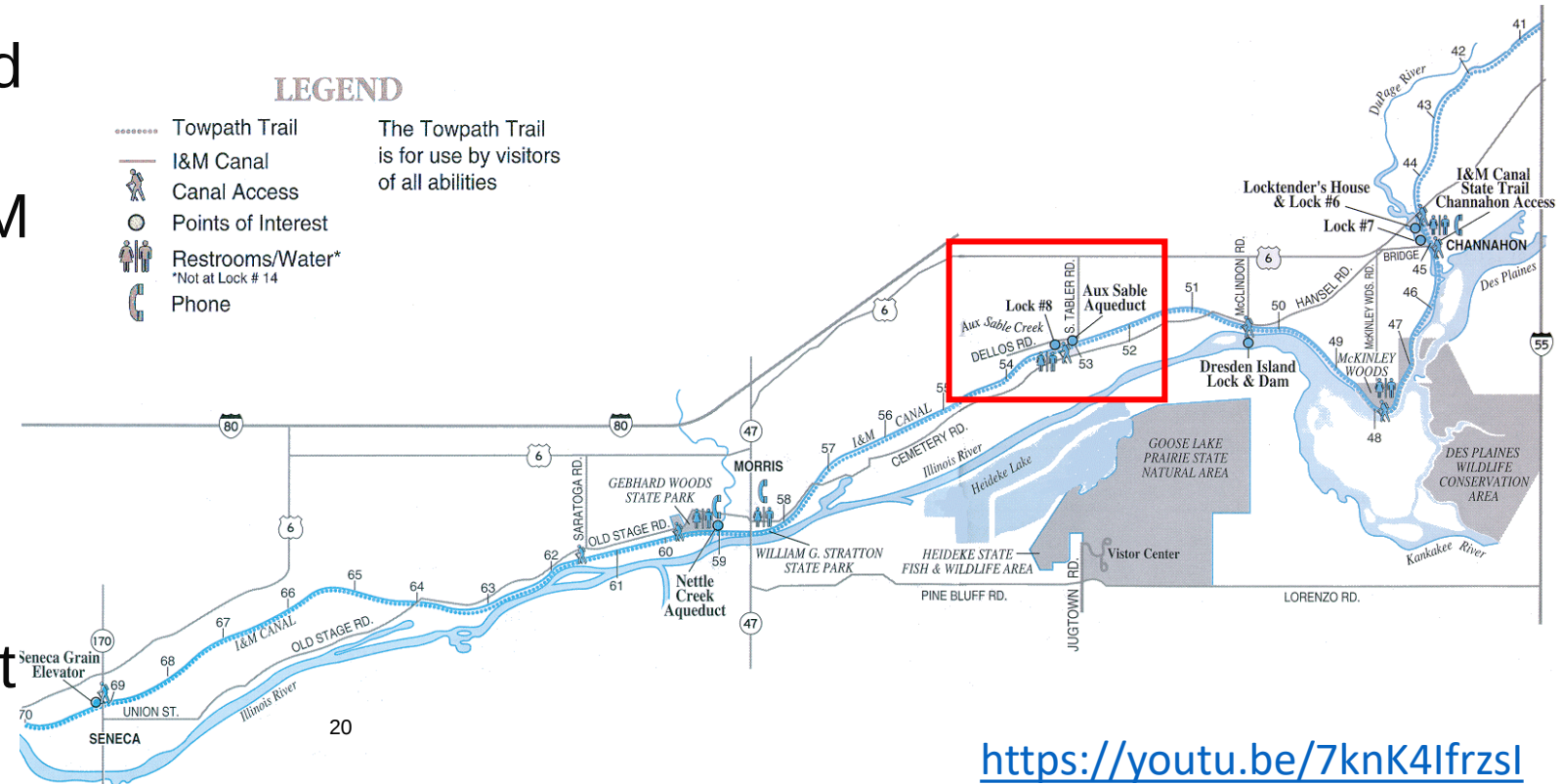
Under the terms of this treaty, a twenty-mile wide strip of land was ceded to the United States. This area extended from the western shore of Lake Michigan, 10 miles north and 10 miles south of the Chicago River, and westward to the Fox River. This strip is what became known as the Indian Boundary Line.

The purpose of this land cession was to create a corridor for safe passage for traders and settlers between the important Chicago Portage and the Illinois River at Ottawa. The tribes retained the right to hunt and fish on the ceded lands.





The Aux Sable Creek watershed supported industries and agriculture that relied on the I&M Canal for transportation. Goods did not travel directly down the creek into the canal. They were likely transported to a canal access point like Minooka, and loaded onto barges for transport along the I&M Canal.

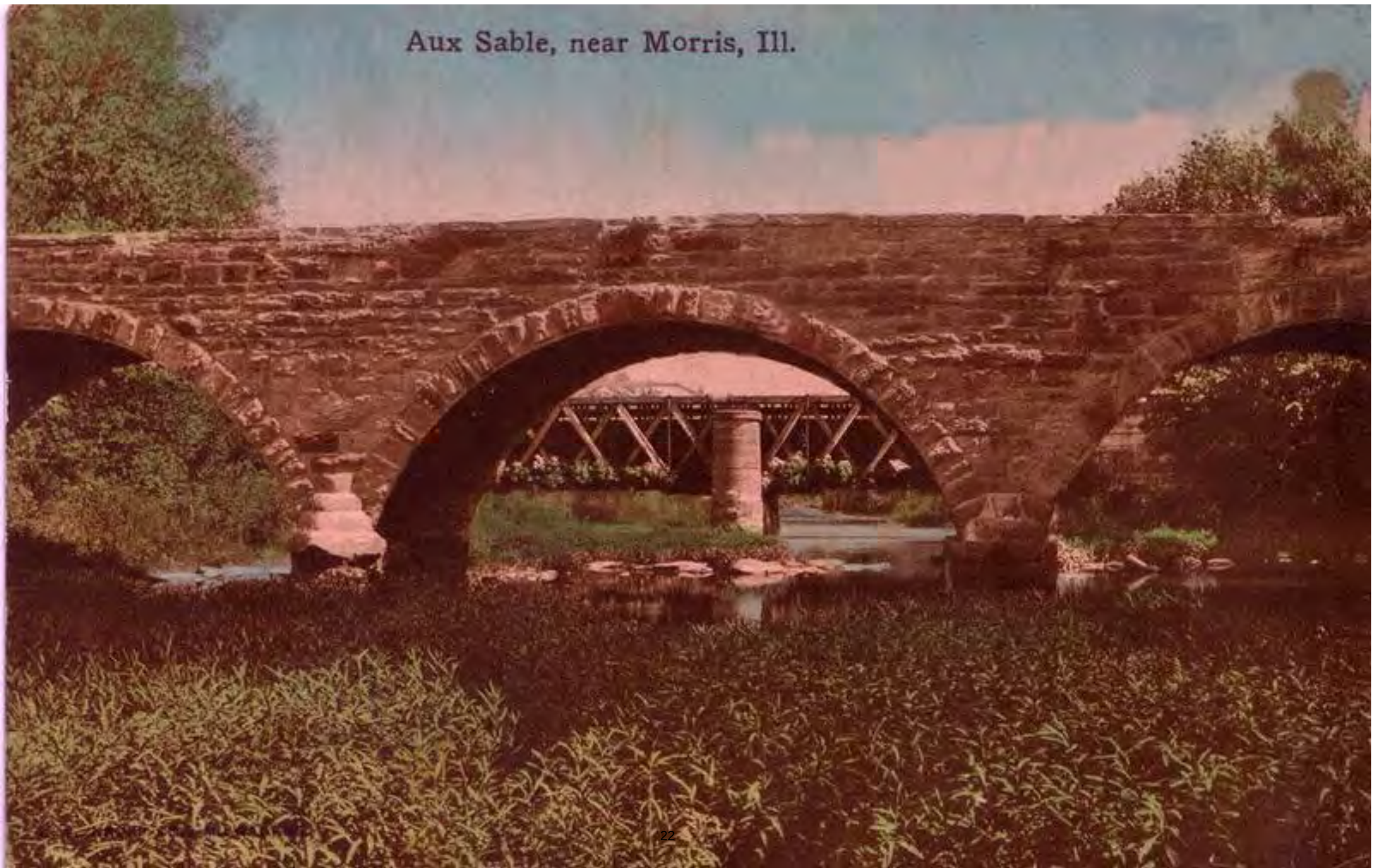


<https://youtu.be/7knK4lfrzsl>



The earliest Aqueduct at Aux Sable Creek, built as part of the I & M canal project, was a timber structure completed in 1847. This structure was replaced with the present riveted steel trough in 1927.

Aux Sable, near Morris, Ill.





## **Notes on House's Grove near Baker Woods FP**

While a part of House's Grove is now part of Baker Woods, the southwest portion of section 15 described below is not.

<https://kendallkin.org/county-history/place-names.html#HousesGrove>

### **Sulphur Springs**

(historical) Sulphur springs are located in a number of places in Seward Township. One of the largest and best known sulphur springs was located in House's Grove a little southwest of the center of section 15. The area around the springs was a popular picnic spot. See House's Grove.

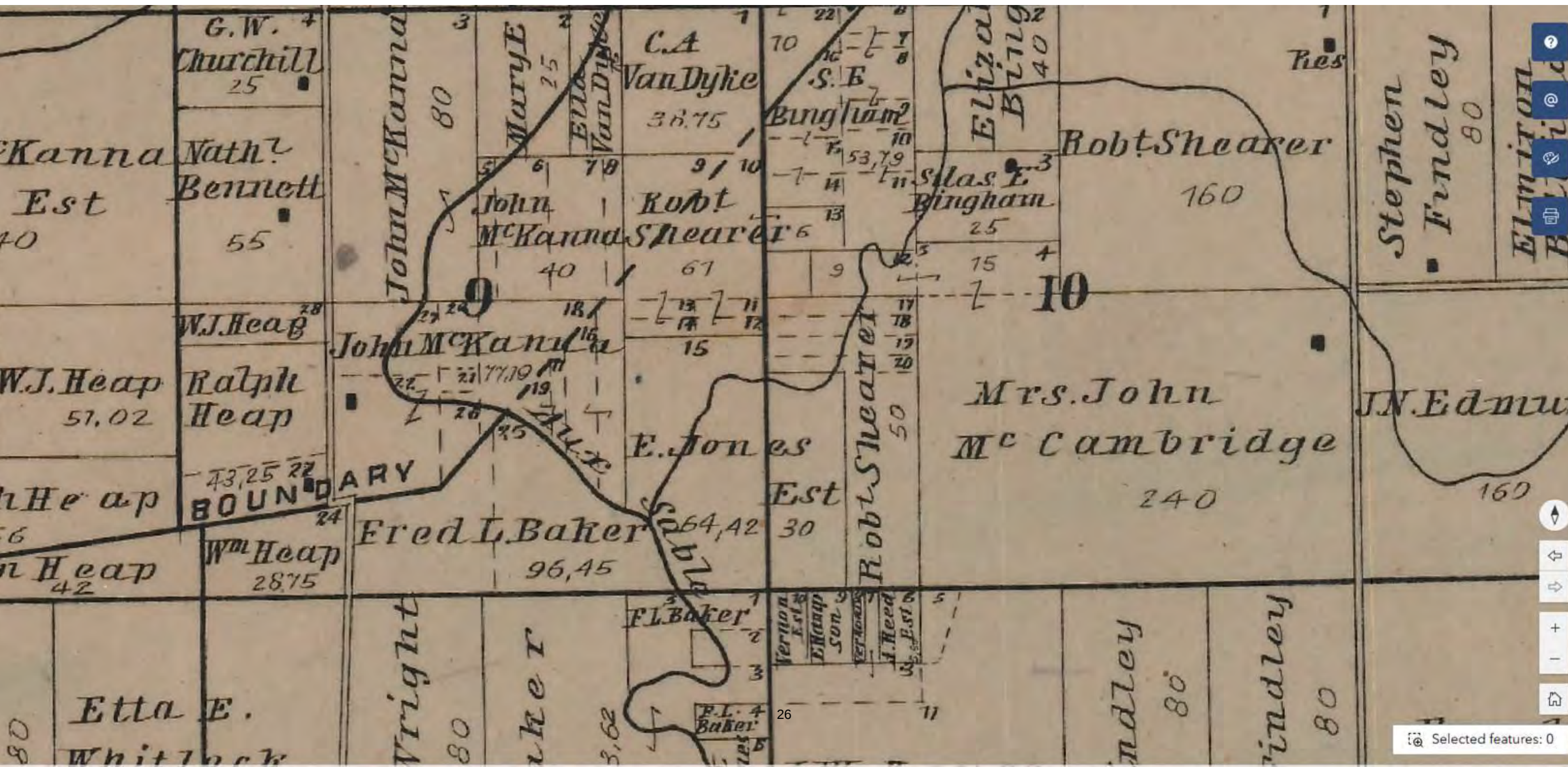
The spring was a clear, constant spring which, gave off the odor of sulfuretted hydrogen (hydrogen sulphide.) The odor was perceptible from several yards away but the sulphurous taste of the water was not sufficiently strong to make it disagreeable to most people. For some people, the reverse was the case and the water prized.

Other sulphur springs were found a mile or mile and a quarter farther west along the banks of the Aux Sable Creek and still others were found in section 23, and the northern part of section 16, Seward Township. Geological Report of Kendall County, 1871.

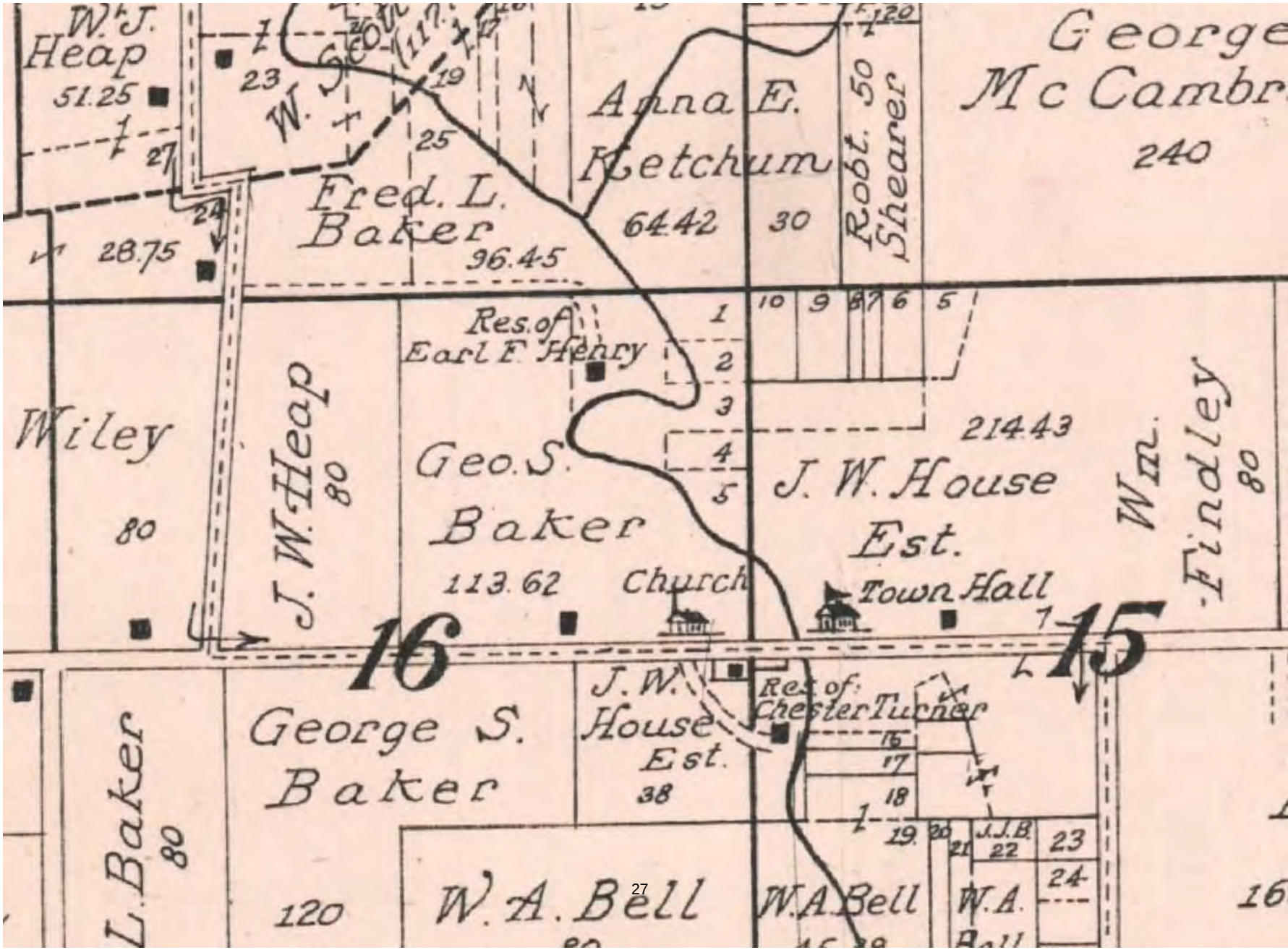
# 1875 – Fred Baker (Baker Woods)



## 1908 – “Baker” Family Property Additions



1908 – Route 52 – Residences, Church & Township Hall (Rt. 52 Rest Stop)



1939 Aerial Photos – “The Good Stuff”  
Aux Sable Oak Ecosystem Corridor



1997 – Still largely rural character  
Ellis House, Stable & Indoor Arena Constructed  
Fox Township Rt. 52 Facilities



2003



# Baker Woods / Ellis Acquisitions

Total Preserve Acreage – 167 +/- acres

09-16-200-003

Acquired 1967 - 17.74-acres - Donation

 **KENDALL COUNTY GIS**  
Map Viewer

Parcels, Boundaries, and History ▾

Assessment Information ▾

Planning, Building, & Zoning

Voting ▾

Parcel Information

**Parcel: 09-16-200-003**

|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| Alternate PIN |             |
| Brief Legal   | SEC 16-35-8 |

Taxing Information

All taxing information comes from assessment records and a parcel's tax code

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Tax Code          | SE001           |
| Property Class    | 0090            |
| Township          | Seward Township |
| Municipality      | UNINCORPORATED  |
| Drainage District |                 |
| SSA               |                 |

Property Area

Deeded acreage reflects a parcel's area as given in the legal record, and is only provided when given. Calculated acreage and square footage are based on the parcel's shape, and do not have any legal or assessment implications.

|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Deeded Acreage | 17.74 |
| Homesite Acres | 17.74 |
| Farm Acres     | 0.00  |
| Calculated     | 17.65 |

CAMA Information

Select a parcel with associated structures to view CAMA data.

Search

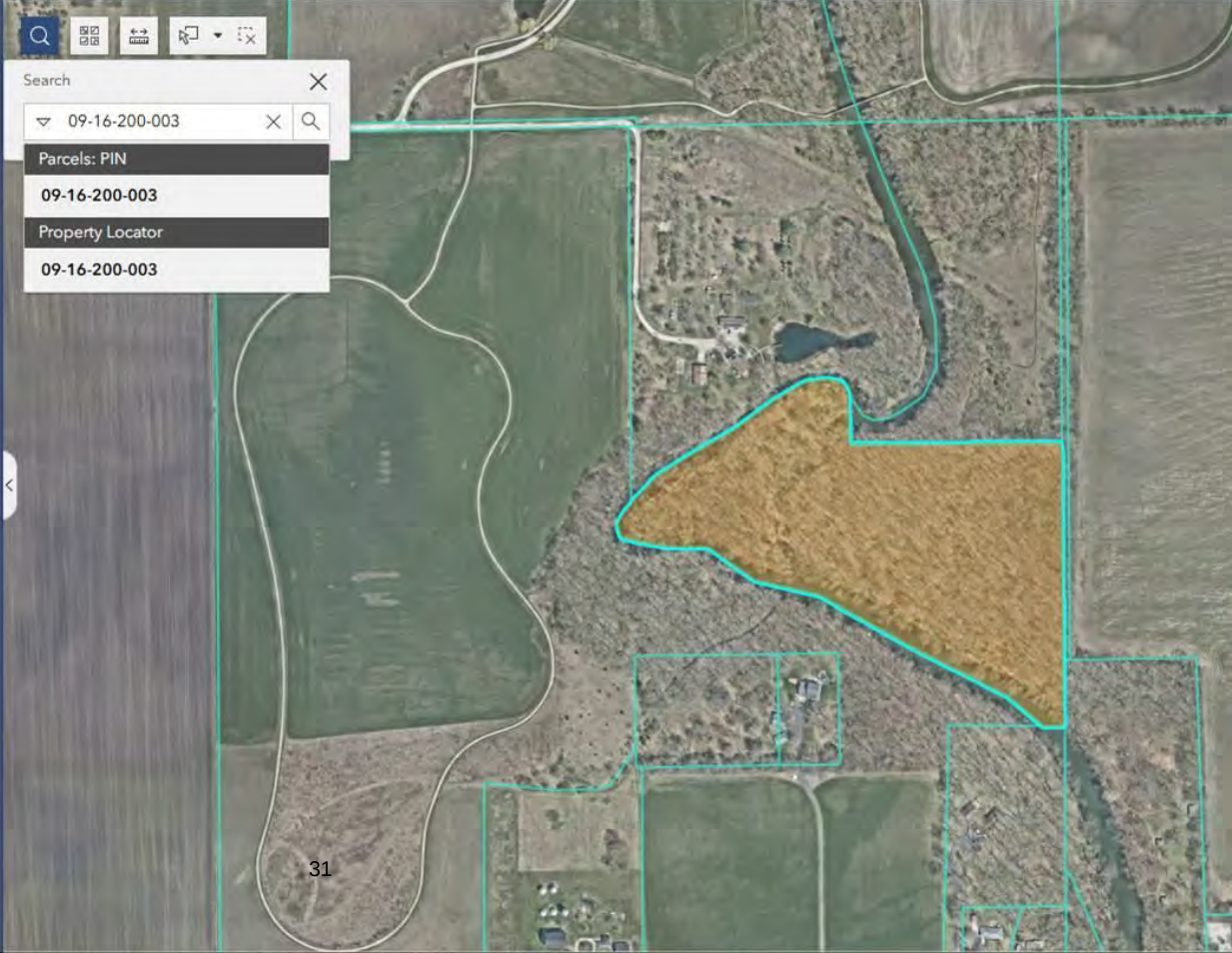
09-16-200-003

Parcels: PIN

09-16-200-003

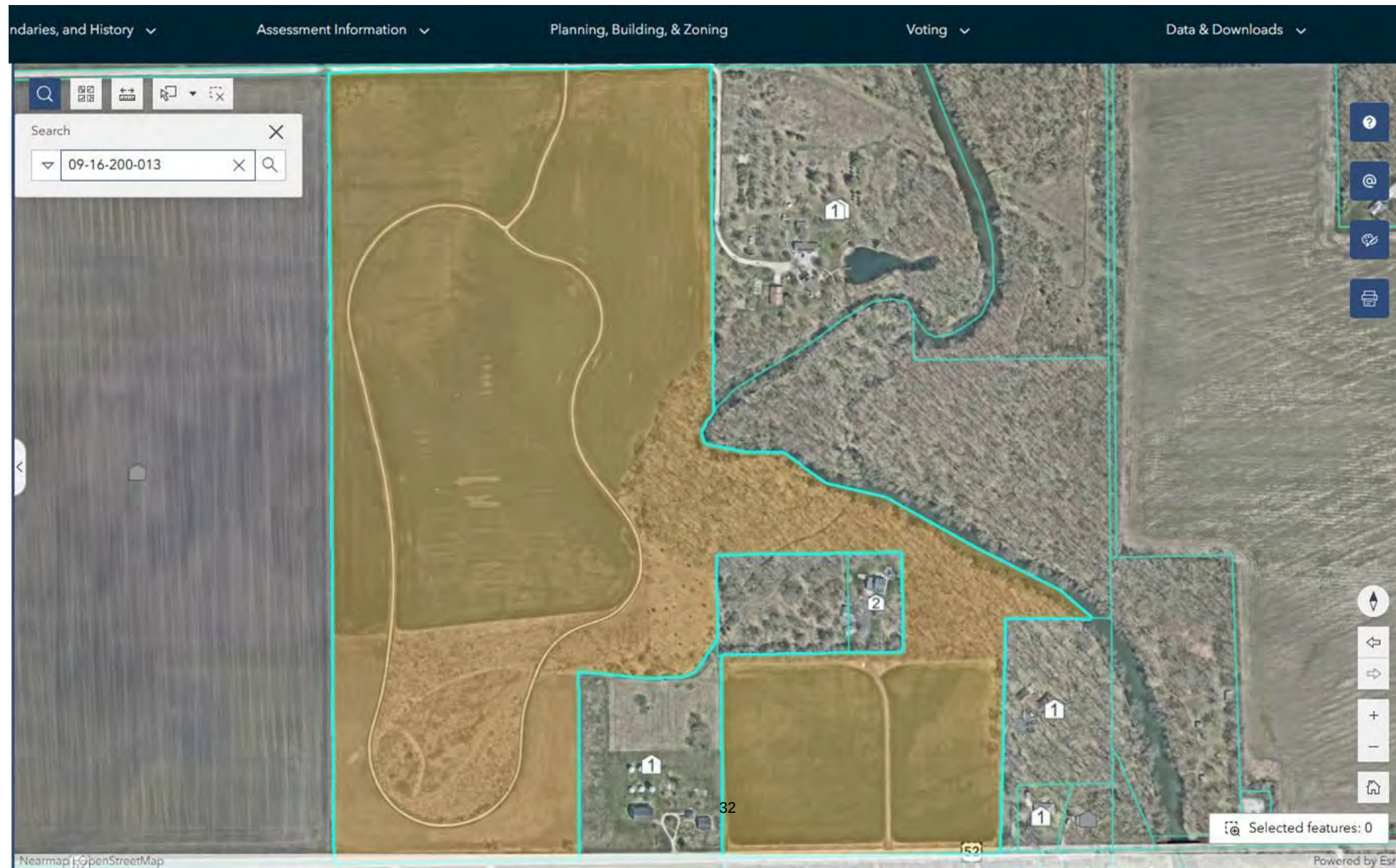
Property Locator

09-16-200-003



09-16-200-013

Acquired March 2008 - \$250K DCEO Grant - \$1.883M 95.45 AC (\$20K per acre)  
Carolyn Baker and Deborah Smith



09-09-400-004

Ellis Equestrian Center Parcel Acquired May 2008 – \$2.440M (44.90 acres)  
William Stephen and Cynthia Ellis

**KENDALL COUNTY GIS**  
Map Viewer

Parcels, Boundaries, and History ▾

Assessment Information ▾

Planning, Building, & Zoning

Voting ▾

Data & Downloads ▾

Parcel Information

**Parcel: 09-09-400-004**

|               |                                               |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Alternate PIN |                                               |
| Brief Legal   | SEC 9 35 8<br>IRREG 46.68 AC<br>TR LYG SE 1/4 |

Taxing Information

All taxing information comes from assessment records and a parcel's tax code

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Tax Code          | SE001           |
| Property Class    | 0090            |
| Township          | Seward Township |
| Municipality      | UNINCORPORATED  |
| Drainage District |                 |
| SSA               |                 |

Property Area

Deeded acreage reflects a parcel's area as given in the legal record, and is only available when a parcel is selected.

CAMA Information

Select a parcel with associated structures to view CAMA data.

Search

09-09-400-004



Table 1. Baker's Woods plant list (1999).

SITE: BAKER'S WOODS  
 LOCALE: KENDALL COUNTY  
 DATE: 1999 FIELD SEASON  
 BY: SCOTT KOBAL  
 BAKERF99.WB2

CONSERVATISM 57.84%

| FLORISTIC QUALITY DATA |  | NATIVE      | 80.1% | ADVENTIVE | 19.9% |
|------------------------|--|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| 185 NATIVE SPECIES     |  | 32 Tree     | 13.9% | 3 Tree    | 1.3%  |
| 231 Total Species      |  | 16 Shrub    | 6.9%  | 6 Shrub   | 2.6%  |
| 3.90 NATIVE MEAN C     |  | 6 W-Vine    | 2.6%  | 1 W-Vine  | 0.4%  |
| 3.13 W/Adventives      |  | 2 H-Vine    | 0.9%  | 0 H-Vine  | 0.0%  |
| 53.08 NATIVE FQI       |  | 80 P-Forb   | 34.6% | 11 P-Forb | 4.8%  |
| 47.50 W/Adventives     |  | 3 B-Forb    | 1.3%  | 5 B-Forb  | 2.2%  |
| 0.5 NATIVE MEAN W      |  | 25 A-Forb   | 10.8% | 10 A-Forb | 4.3%  |
| 0.8 W/Adventives       |  | 9 P-Grass   | 3.9%  | 5 P-Grass | 2.2%  |
| AVG: FACULTATIVE (-)   |  | 2 A-Grass   | 0.9%  | 5 A-Grass | 2.2%  |
|                        |  | 9 P-Sedge   | 3.9%  | 0 P-Sedge | 0.0%  |
|                        |  | 0 A-Sedge   | 0.0%  | 0 A-Sedge | 0.0%  |
|                        |  | 1 Cryptogam | 0.4%  |           |       |



09-09-400-004  
Acquired September 2009  
Seward Township - \$200,850  
10-acres (Theodore House – 1939)

**KENDALL COUNTY GIS**  
Map Viewer

Parcels, Boundaries, and History ▾

Assessment Information ▾

Planning, Building, & Zoning

Voting ▾

### Parcel Information

**Parcel: 09-09-400-004**

|               |                                               |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Alternate PIN |                                               |
| Brief Legal   | SEC 9-35-8<br>IRREG 46.68 AC<br>TR LYG SE 1/4 |

### Taxing Information

All taxing information comes from assessment records and a parcel's tax code

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Tax Code          | SE001           |
| Property Class    | 0090            |
| Township          | Seward Township |
| Municipality      | UNINCORPORATED  |
| Drainage District |                 |
| SSA               |                 |

### Property Area

Deeded acreage reflects a parcel's area as given in the legal record, and is only provided when given. Calculated acreage and square footage are based on the parcel's shape, and do not have any legal or assessment implications.

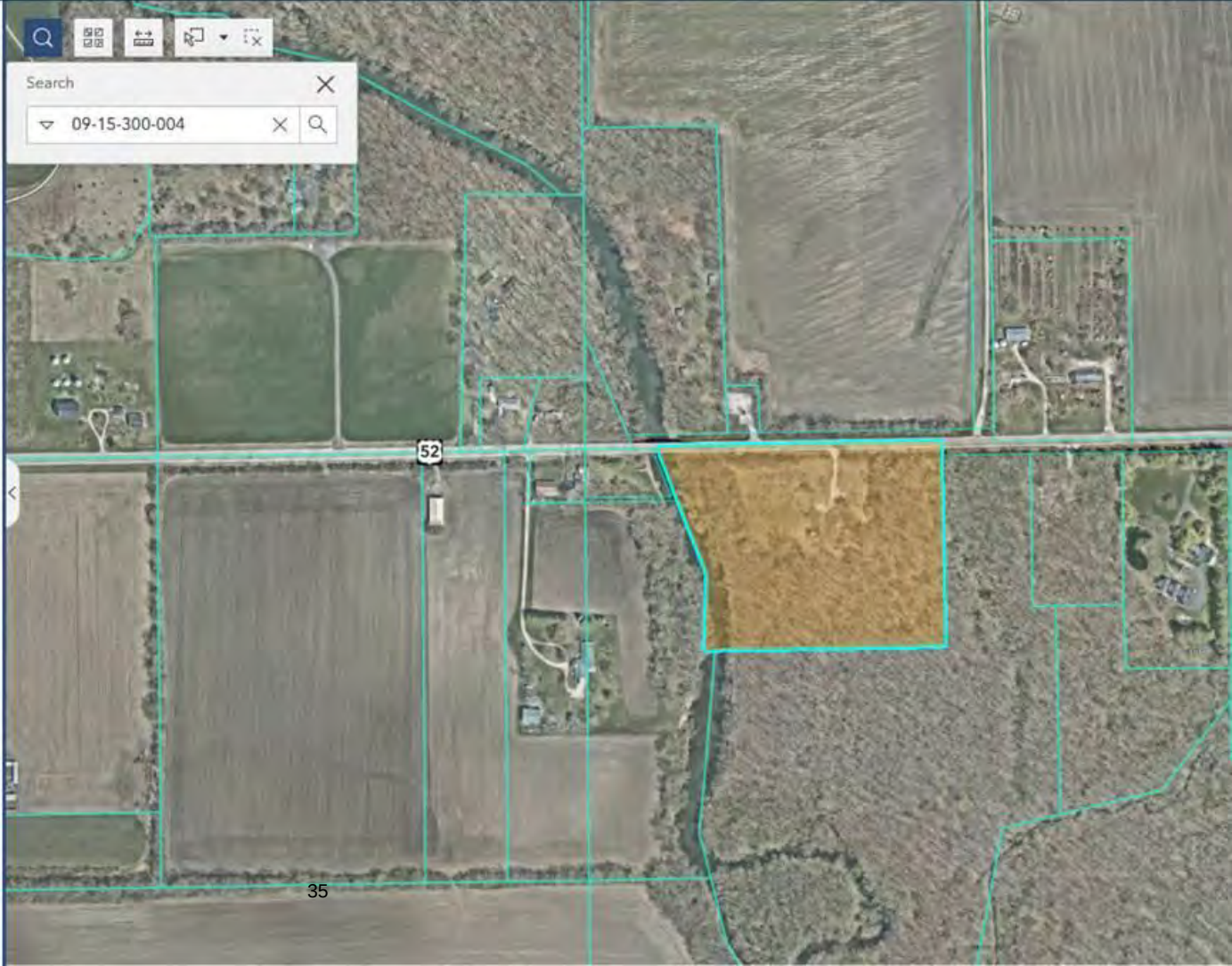
|                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| Deeded Acreage | 44.90 |
| Homesite Acres | 0.00  |

### CAMA Information

Select a parcel with associated structures to view CAMA data.

Search

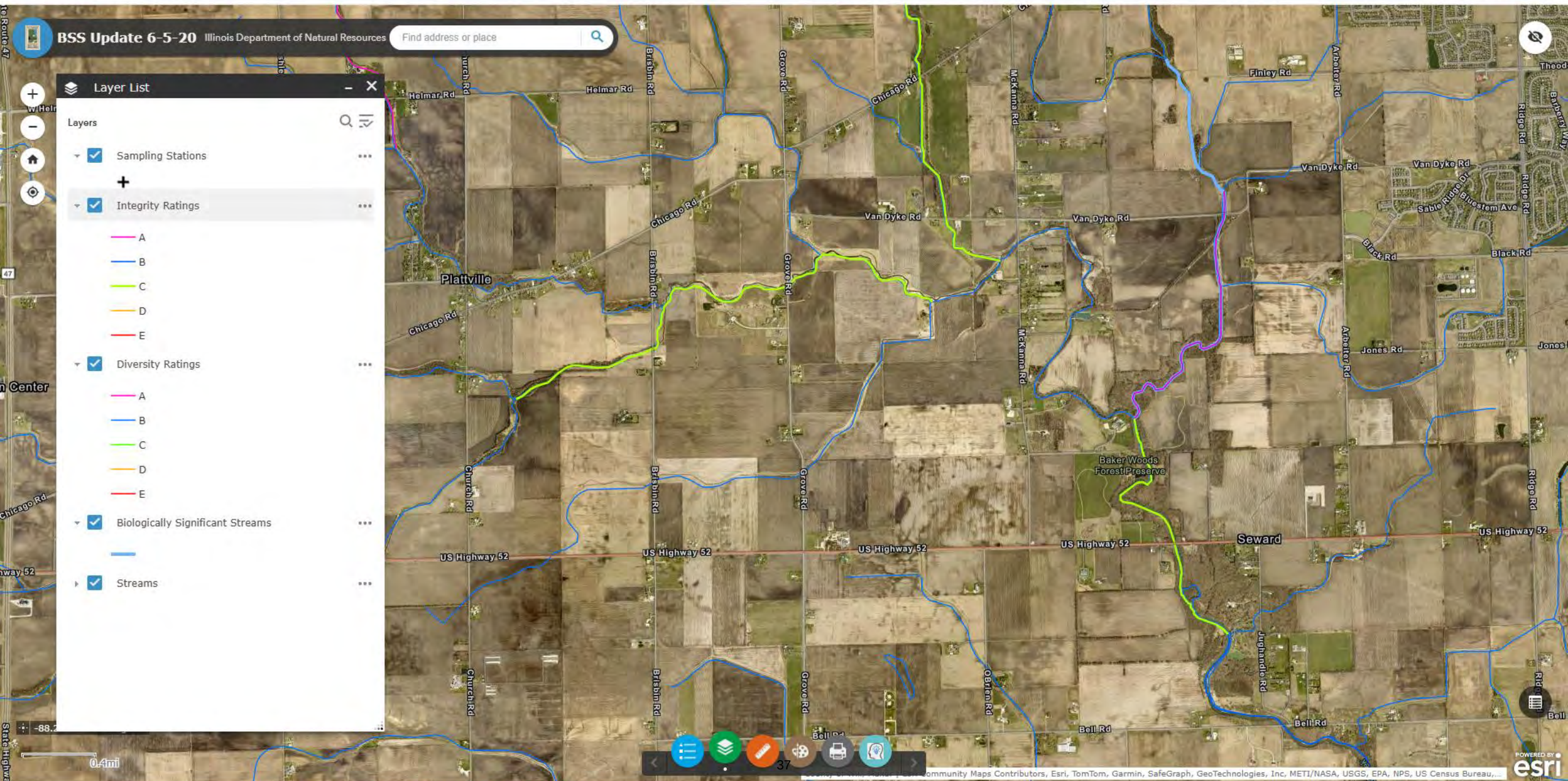
09-15-300-004



35

## Other Parcels Acquired

|      |                 |                                                 |          |           |
|------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
| 2008 | Sandstrom Trust | 09-09-400-003<br>09-10-300-002<br>09-16-200-010 | 61.23-ac | \$1.117M  |
| 2011 | DeVries, Mary   | 09-16-200-010                                   | 10.76-ac | \$110,000 |



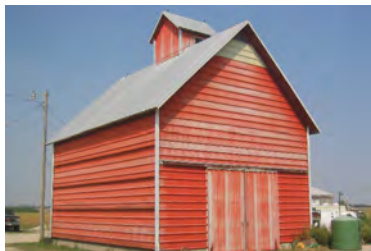
2025





KENDALL COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

# Rural Historic Structures Survey



[www.wje.com](http://www.wje.com)



Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

July 21, 2025

WJE

# Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships Survey

An orange L-shaped line that starts as a horizontal line extending from the right side of the title, then turns 90 degrees downward to form a vertical line.

# Kendall County Survey Project Goals

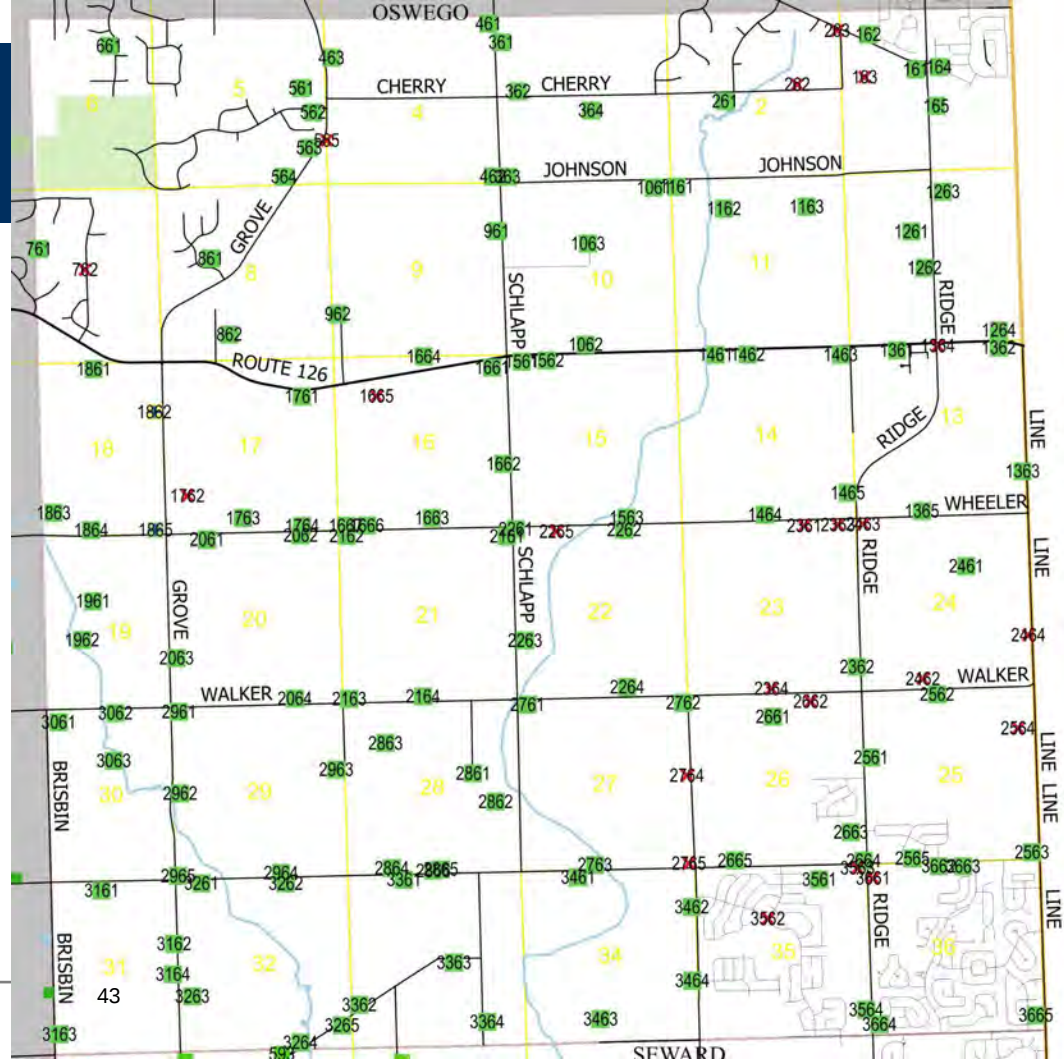
- Provide background history of the county and survey area
- Provide architectural context of building types
- Document historic rural structures
- Assess and identify potential landmark properties
  - No designated county landmarks in these townships
  - No National Register-listed properties in these townships

# Previous Projects

- County-wide field documentation compiled by Stephenie Todd
- 2023: Survey of Bristol and Kendall Townships
- 2005: WJE survey of selected portions of Na-Au-Say and Oswego Townships on behalf of the Village of Plainfield
  - 41 farmsteads surveyed in Na-Au-Say Township
  - 3 have been subsequently demolished

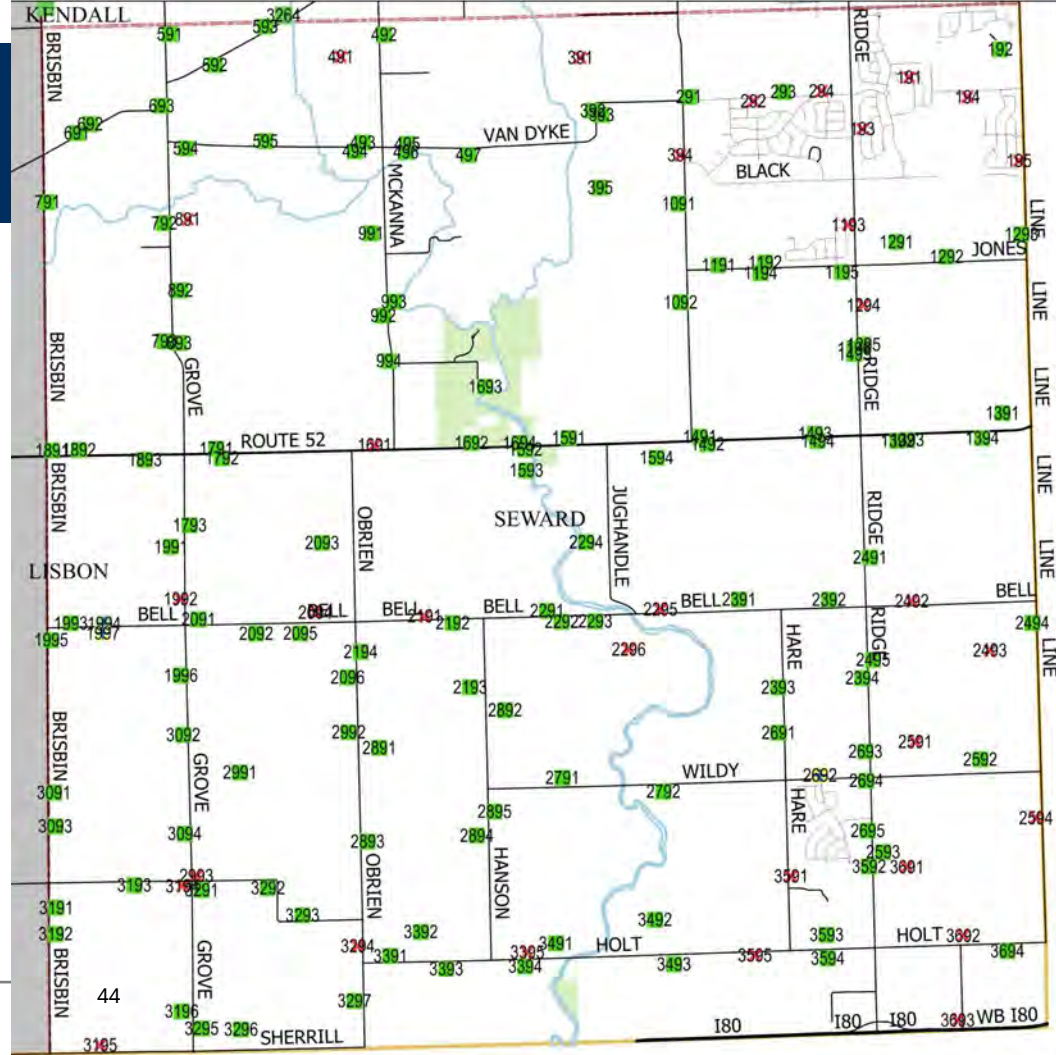
# Project Scope

- Na-Au-Say Township  
122 potential farmstead sites to be surveyed



# Project Scope

- Na-Au-Say Township  
122 potential farmstead sites to be surveyed
- Seward Township  
127 potential farmstead sites to be surveyed



# Survey Project Process

- Historical research
- Database development
- Mapping
- Field survey
  - Assisted by volunteers
- Report writing

# Research materials

HISTORY  
— OF —  
KENDALL COUNTY

ILLINOIS,

FROM THE

**Earliest Discoveries to the Present Time,**

— BY —

REV. E. W. HICKS.

Author of "Life of Jesus, for Young People."

AURORA, ILL.:

KNICKERBOCKER & HODDER, Steam Printers and Blank Book Makers,  
Nos. 24, 26 & 28 Broadway,

1877.  
F. J. G.

GENEALOGICAL  
AND  
BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD  
OF  
KENDALL AND WILL COUNTIES  
ILLINOIS

Containing Biographies of Well Known Citizens of the  
Past and Present

BIOGRAPHICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY  
CHICAGO  
1901

**Prairie Farmer's Director**  
of  
**Grundy and Kendall Counties**  
**Illinois**

Complete Directory of the Farmers of Grundy and Kendall Counties, with valuable information about each farm.

Breeder's Directory, giving full classified list of breeders of purebred livestock and poultry.

Business Directory, giving list of all business houses in Grundy and Kendall Counties.

Valuable statistics and general information.

Copyright, 1917

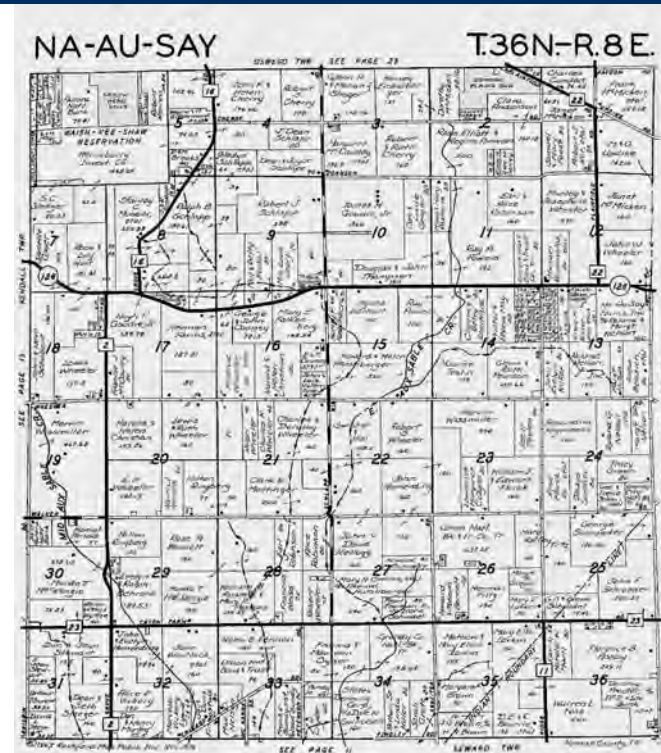
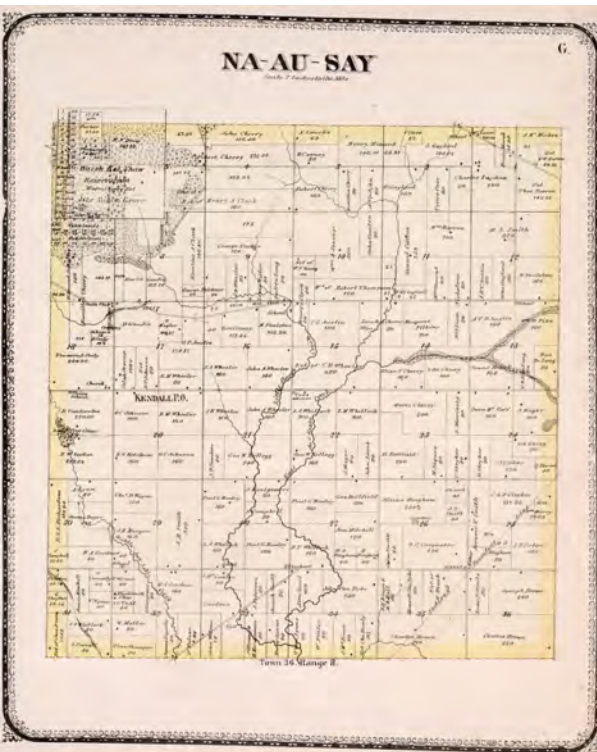
By PRAIRIE FARMER PUBLISHING COMPANY

1917

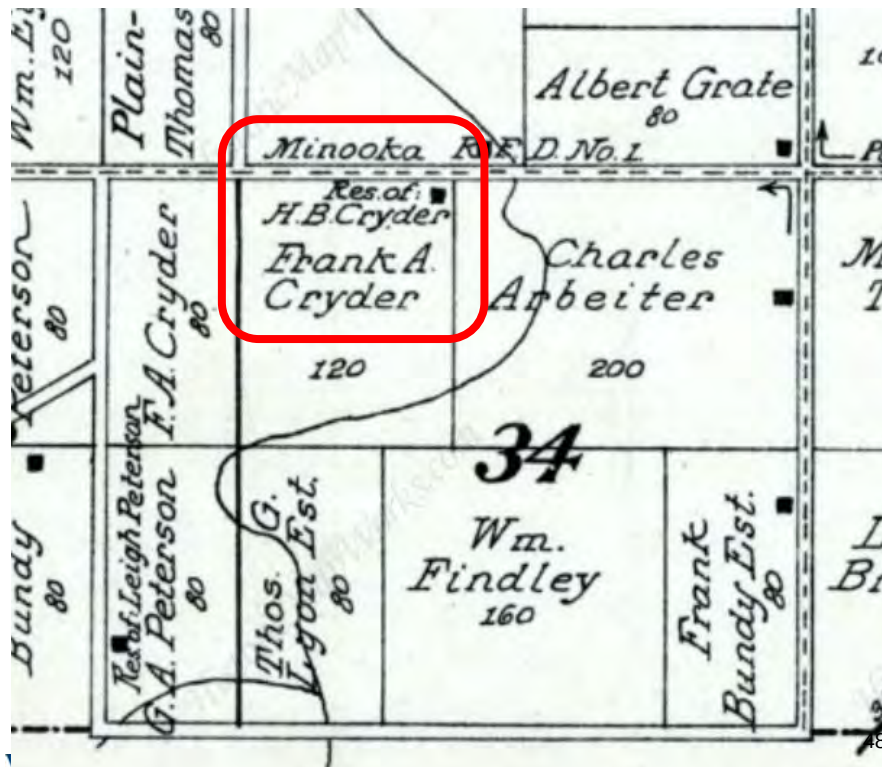
Compiled and Published by

**Prairie Farmer Publishing Co.**  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

# Research materials



# Research materials



RESIDENCE OF HENRY B. CRYDER,  
MINOOKA, ILLINOIS.

# Microsoft Access database

Property Basic Data Entry Form

214 304

Sketchbook:

PIN Number: 02-03-400-005  
 Street Number: 522  
 Street Name: Dickson Road  
 Congress\_twp: T37N  
 Congress\_range: R7E  
 Section\_num: 3  
 Parcel: NW 1/4 of SE 1/4  
 Surveyor\_initial:  
 Survey\_date:  
 Name:  
 Hist\_func:  
 Cur\_func:  
 Orientation:  
 History\_notes: House: 1939  
 Fieldnotes:  
 add\_structures:  
 significance:

Extra Photo 1

Extra Photo 2

Records: 15 of 126

| PIN Number    | Street Number | Street Name       | Section | Parcel               | History notes                          | Name                         |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|
|               |               |                   |         | 1 E 1/2 of NW 1/4    |                                        |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 1 NE part NE 1/4     |                                        |                              |
| 02-01-200-005 | 6136          | Galena Road       |         | 1 part SE 1/4 NE 1/4 | House: 1918                            |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 1 middle part S 1/2  |                                        |                              |
| 02-01-300-016 |               | Orchard Road      |         | 1 NW part SW 1/4     | May be relatively recent construction. |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 1 NW part SW 1/4     |                                        |                              |
| 02-01-300-006 | 6920          | Galena Road       |         | 1 part SW 1/4 SW 1/4 | House: 1880                            |                              |
| 02-01-200-001 |               | U.S. Route 30     |         | 1                    |                                        | Jacob Keck Memorial Cemetery |
| 02-02-101-004 |               |                   |         | 2 W 1/2 of NW 1/4    |                                        |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 2 W part of NE 1/4   |                                        |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 2 E part NE 1/4      |                                        |                              |
| 02-02-476-006 | 7027          | Galena Road       |         | 2 small part SE 1/4  | House: 1979                            |                              |
| 02-03-100-001 | 8822          | U.S. Route 30     |         | 3 N 1/2 of NW 1/4    | House: 1933                            |                              |
| 02-03-200-001 | 8218          | U.S. Route 30     |         | 3 NE 1/4             | House: 1940                            |                              |
| 02-03-300-002 | 421           | Dickson Road      |         | 3 NE 1/4 of SW 1/4   | House: 1928                            |                              |
| 02-03-400-005 | 522           | Dickson Road      |         | 3 NW 1/4 of SE 1/4   | House: 1939                            |                              |
| 02-03-481-006 | 1004          | Dickson Road      |         | 3 SW 1/4 of SE 1/4   | House: 1862                            |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 3 SE 1/4 of SW 1/4   |                                        |                              |
| 02-04-100-007 | 9338          | U.S. Route 30     |         | 4 W 1/2 of NE 1/4    | House: 1880                            |                              |
| 02-04-200-001 | 9124          | U.S. Route 30     |         | 4 E 1/2 of NE 1/4    | House: 1875                            |                              |
| 02-05-200-004 | 10034         | Baseline Road     |         | 5 NE 1/4 of NE 1/4   | House: 1960                            |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 5 SE 1/4             |                                        |                              |
| 02-05-300-005 | 10724         | Galena Road       |         | 5 SW 1/4             | House: 1890                            |                              |
| 02-05-300-002 | 10502         | Galena Road       |         | 5 small parcel       | House: 1959                            |                              |
| 02-05-400-012 | 10318         | Galena Road       |         | 5 S part SE 1/4      | House: 1963                            |                              |
| 02-06-100-010 | 11843         | Galena Road       |         | 6 part NW 1/4        | House: 1850                            |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 6 part SE 1/4        |                                        |                              |
| 02-06-300-009 | 790           | Eldamain Road     |         | 6 part SW 1/4        | House: 1910                            |                              |
| 02-07-100-011 | 1414          | Eldamain Road     |         | 7 SW 1/4 of NW 1/4   | House: 1900                            |                              |
| 02-07-100-008 | 1327          | Beecher Road West |         | 7 SE 1/4 of NW 1/4   | House: 1880                            |                              |
| 02-07-200-001 | 1128          | Beecher Road West |         | 7 W 1/2 of NE 1/4    | House: 1967                            |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 7 S 1/2 of SW 1/4    |                                        |                              |
| 02-08-100-005 | 1410          | Beecher Road East |         | 8 NW 1/4             | House: 1900                            |                              |
| 02-08-300-008 | 10791         | Cornells Road     |         | 8 W part SW 1/4      | House: 2000                            |                              |
| 02-08-400-002 | 10417         | Cornells Road     |         | 8 SW 1/4 of SE 1/4   | House: 1960                            |                              |
|               |               |                   |         | 9 W part NW 1/4      |                                        |                              |
| 02-09-100-013 | 495           | Galena Road       |         | 9 N part NW 1/4      | House: 1890                            |                              |
| 02-09-200-003 | 9274          | Galena Road       |         | 9 NE 1/4             | House: 1890                            |                              |
| 02-09-300-003 | 9619          | Cornells Road     |         | 9 SE 1/4 of SW 1/4   | House: 1940                            |                              |

# Field Survey

- Document each structure
- Photographs
- Written notes: materials and other features

| Kendall Township Rural Historic Structures Survey                             |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Address <input type="text" value="9123 Helmar Road"/>                         |                                                    | Property Name <input type="text"/>                                                  |                                  |
| ID No. <input type="text" value="3356"/>                                      | PIN No. <input type="text" value="05-33-400-003"/> | Survey Date <input type="text"/>                                                    | Surveyor(s) <input type="text"/> |
| T36N R7E                                                                      |                                                    |  |                                  |
| Section <input type="text" value="33"/>                                       |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |
| Parcel                                                                        |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |
| <input type="text" value="SE 1/4"/>                                           |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |
| <div>History Notes<br/>House: 1958</div>                                      |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |
| <div>Fieldnotes</div>                                                         |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |
| List Each Structure                                                           |                                                    | List Materials of Foundation, Walls, Roof, Porches, and Trim                        |                                  |
| HOUSE - BRICK MASONRY - POURED FNDN.<br>ASPHALT ROOF SHINGLES - VINYL WINDOWS |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |
| MORTON BARN (RED)<br>STEEL                                                    |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |
| CORRUGATED STEEL BLDG.                                                        |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |
| GRAIN BINS X2<br>STEEL                                                        |                                                    |                                                                                     |                                  |

# Report and survey form preparation

- Correlate historical research and field survey information
- Finalize database and mapping
- Assess significance: Potential National Register-eligible, potential local landmark, contributing, non-contributing
- Compile narrative summary report

# KENDALL TOWNSHIP HISTORIC STRUCTURES SURVEY

|                  |               |               |                  |           |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|
| 9111 Ashley Road |               | Property Name | Ashley Farmstead |           |
| PIN No.          | 05-22-200-002 | 2252          | Survey Date      | 2/15/2023 |
|                  |               | Surveyor(s)   | JH               |           |

Township T36N Range R7E Orientation East

Section 22 Parcel NE 1/4

Historic Use Agricultural

Current Use Commercial

Significance National Register potential

## Fieldnotes

Sold 2016, now used as an events venue, Ashley Farm Weddings (www.ashleyfarmweddings.com)



## House

House Type Four-over-four

House Style Italianate

Number of stories 2

Roof Type Hip

Window Type(s) 2-over-2 double-hung

Dormer Type Hipped

Date or Approx. Decade of Construction 1860s

Foundation Stone

Wall Material(s) Wood siding

Trim Material(s) Wood

Porch Material(s) Wood

Roof Material(s) Asphalt shingle

Significance Contributing



## Historic and Architectural Survey of Bristol and Kendall Townships Kendall County, Illinois

August 2023

for  
Kendall County Planning, Building, and Zoning Department  
and  
Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

## Notes

Very large, well preserved, and elaborately detailed example of Italianate style house.

# Outcomes

- Record of existing conditions
- Overview of history and historic themes
- Identification of potential landmarks or districts

# Landmark Designation of Historic Cemeteries

---

# Can cemeteries be landmarks?

- Cemeteries reflect and represent cultural values and practices of the past
- Historic cemeteries can be threatened by abandonment, vandalism, development, or environmental hazards
- Due to the personal resonance of cemeteries to family members and descendants, they are not typically considered for landmark designation without special consideration
- Religious significance is generally not considered as part of the government landmarking process
- 18 Illinois cemeteries are listed in the National Register

# Landmark criteria

- Burial places predating European pioneer settlement are protected by the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
- Kendall County Historic Preservation Ordinance
- National Register Criteria and Criteria Considerations
- National Register Bulletin 41: *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places*

# National Register Criteria Considerations

- A: Religious property is eligible if significant for design or history
- C: An individual grave is significant only if the person is of outstanding importance and there is no other appropriate site connected to his or her productive life
- D: Cemetery is eligible if it derives significance from:
  - Graves of persons of transcendent importance
  - Age
  - Distinctive design features
  - Association with historic events

# National Register Criteria Considerations

- F: Commemorative site eligible if age, tradition, or symbolic value have invested it with its own historical significance
- G: Sites less than 50 years old are eligible if of exceptional importance
  - Does not apply to a cemetery that is more than 50 years old, even if open for new burials

# Integrity

1. To what degree does the cemetery and setting convey its historic period?
2. To what degree has the original design, materials, decoration, and landscaping been retained?
3. Has the property's potential to yield information about historic culture been compromised by ground disturbance or other changes?

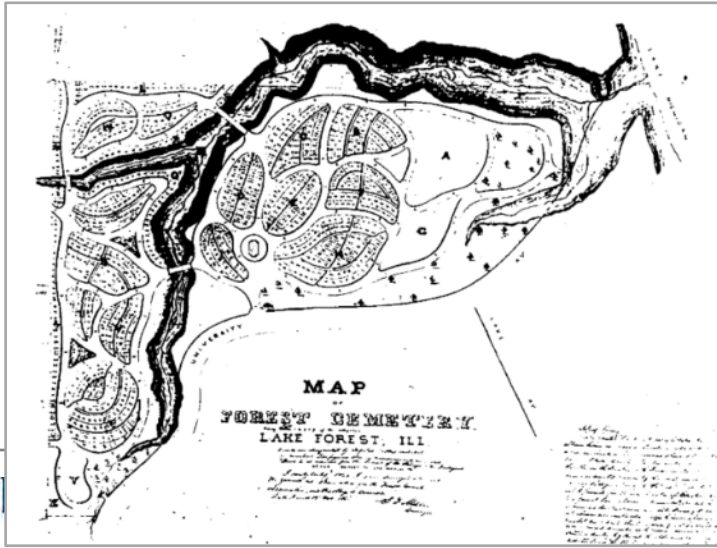
# National Register Examples

- Bohemian National Cemetery, Pulaski Avenue, Chicago  
Listed in National Register for association with an ethnic group (Czech-American community) and for its landscape design



# National Register Examples

- Lake Forest Cemetery, Lake Forest, Illinois  
Listed in National Register for its landscape design
- Quincy National Cemetery, Quincy, Illinois  
Listed in National Register for association with Civil War-era military history



# Local Examples

Wheatland Township Cemetery  
(Will County, designated 2011)  
First burials date to 1830s, formally  
established in 1840. Contains graves of  
many prominent pioneer families



Beecher Mausoleum  
(Will County, designated 1998)  
(National Register listed, 2013)  
Nominated for architectural design





## Matt Asselmeier

---

**From:** Michele Houchens <micheleh@trpld.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 1, 2025 10:35 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Re: July 21st Kendall County Historic Preservation Groups Meeting

CAUTION - This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Matt,

I am not going to be able to attend the meeting at Ellis House on the 21st. I really wish I could especially since it is at Ellis House and I will miss the discussion of the historic structure survey. The widening of Ridge Road just north of Minooka is going to cause the destruction of many of the homes that are along it. I'd also like to invite everyone to visit the Three Rivers Public Library Local History Museum located at 109 N. Wabena Ave in Minooka. I know it is in Grundy County, but our library district extends into Kendall! I grew up in Seward Twp so its history holds a special place in my heart! My hours are varied but I am usually here on Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursdays from 12 pm to 5 pm and every other Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. People can also contact me to make an appointment for a tour during regular library hours. Our website has more details at [www.trpld.org](http://www.trpld.org)

One of my Seward Twp. highlights are mastodon bones and a tusk that were found in Seward Twp. in the early 1900's and are on loan from Chicago's Field Museum.

Thank you for the invitation!

Michele

On Mon, Jun 30, 2025 at 8:21 AM Matt Asselmeier <[masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov](mailto:masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov)> wrote:

On behalf of the members of the Kendall Historic Preservation Commission, I would like to invite you to a meeting of Kendall County historic preservation organizations on **July 21, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.**, at the Ellis House, at 13986 McKanna Road, Minooka.

The purpose of this meeting is to explore collaborative opportunities between historic preservation groups in Kendall County and to receive updates on the activities of local historic preservation groups.

Guest speakers include David Guritz from the Kendall County Forest Preserve District, discussing the history of the Ellis House. Also, Ken Itle, from Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., will discuss the upcoming historic structure survey of the Na-Au-Say and Seward Townships and the benefits of and how to landmark historic cemeteries.

We will also have an update from attendees regarding activities at your organizations.



*"That we testify against the whole system of Human Slavery - as practiced in these United States. That we consider the Chattel principle, or holding property in Man as a most heaven daring & God provoking sin - and the Sum of all Villanies as it effects those enslaved. That we cannot hold fellowship with voluntary slaveholders or their abettors. We cannot permit their preachers to occupy our pulpit - or their members or those who justify them in Slaveholding to sit at our communion."*

*- from Resolutions on Moral Subjects  
Bristol Congregational Church, Jan. 3, 1846*

In the villages of Bristol and Yorkville, early Congregational and Baptist Church members arrived from the East with strong convictions against slavery. Long before their church edifices were built in 1855 and 1857, these congregations worked together as one body to assist and support freedom seekers. Today's *Chapel on the Green* stands as a legacy to those early pastors and members who risked their own safety to champion human rights and personal freedom for all.

## Chapel on the Green Historical Society, NFP

107 West Center St., Yorkville, IL

*Cordially requests your presence at the unveiling and dedication of our new*

*Illinois State Historical Marker:*

### **"Bristol Churches and the Underground Railroad"**

*Public Reception to follow*

**Friday, October 24, 2025      1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

*\*Kindly reply by October 14 to confirm your attendance*

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**"Preserving the Past for the Future"**



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**KENDALL COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

807 West John Street • Yorkville, IL • 60560  
(630) 553-4141 Fax (630) 553-4179

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June 16, 2025

Amy Hathaway  
Illinois State Historic Preservation Office  
Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
1 Natural Resources Way  
Springfield, IL 62702

Dear Amy Hathaway,

On behalf of the members of the Kendall Historic Preservation Commission, I would like to express our support for the Norsk Museum's application for landmark status for the Norway Temperance Hall.

While this property is not located in Kendall County, the recognition of this structure as a State landmark acknowledges the rich heritage of Norwegian Americans in Illinois. From pioneering settlements to influential cultural traditions, the Norwegian American community has left an indelible mark on Illinois' identity. By preserving and revitalizing landmarks like the Norway Temperance Hall, we pay tribute to this legacy and reaffirm our commitment to honoring our diverse heritage.

Structures like the Norway Temperance Hall provide a tangible link to our past, offering invaluable insights into the lives and experiences of those who came before us. By safeguarding and restoring this building, we ensure that these narratives remain accessible to all, fostering a deeper appreciation for our shared history.

The Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission commends the Norsk Museum for their dedication to preserving our shared history and for their efforts to secure recognition for this important project. The restoration of the Norway Temperance Hall will undoubtedly enhance our community and serve as a beacon of pride for generations to come.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Matt Asselmeier, Kendall County Planning, Building and Zoning Director, at 630-553-4139 or at [masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov](mailto:masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Jeff Wehrli.

Jeff Wehrli, Chairman  
Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission

## Matt Asselmeier

---

**From:** Dave Johnson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 10:05 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Cc:** Jeff Wehrli  
**Subject:** Re: [External]Re: Norsk Temperance Hall Question

Our last application revision was accepted and now we're waiting for the vote in Springfield in late September. Thanks for your support and interest!

Sent from my iPhone

Med vennlig hilsen,  
(With friendly greetings,)

David Johnson  
Norsk Museum  
Board President  
Sloop Historian

[REDACTED]  
[www.NorskMuseum.org](http://www.NorskMuseum.org)

On Aug 12, 2025, at 8:50 AM, Matt Asselmeier <masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov> wrote:

Dave:

Any update on your application to the State?

Thanks,

Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM  
Director  
Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning  
807 West John Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560-9249  
PH: 630-553-4139  
Fax: 630-553-4179

## For Immediate Release



In 2017 Landmarks Illinois added the Norway Temperance Association Hall to their 10 Most Endangered Historic Buildings in Illinois. The Norsk Museum endeavored ever since to gain ownership of the building for two reasons, to save the building from collapse and to restore it to its original 1909 glory. The Norsk Museum will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a museum this year. Every year more Norwegian family keepsakes and heirlooms are donated. The NTA hall will provide the much-needed

space for new exhibits. The NTA has great historical value itself and should eventually be added to the National Register of Historic Buildings. Thanks to the generosity of the Borchsenius family, of the Norway Store, the Norsk Museum has claimed ownership of the NTA hall. In 2017, historic architect, Michael Lambert evaluated the structure for the purposes of restoration and estimated the cost to be \$250,000. When we were notified that the building was being donated, Mr. Lambert was invited back for a second evaluation. Inflation now increased the restoration to \$500,000! First the rear wall must be stabilized, then the roof and the windows. After the exterior work is completed, the interior restoration will be addressed.



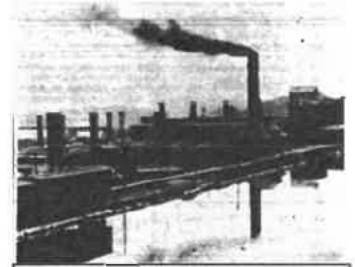
The Norway Temperance Association was organized in the late 1870's by the Norway Methodist Women who believed our nation's ills could be attributed to the drinking of alcoholic beverages. Every year during the 1870's, 1880's and 1890's, the small village of Norway had reports in the newspaper of riots, stabbings, rock throwing and even attempted murder. It was reminiscent of Matt Dillon and Gun Smoke, but without the sheriff. The women of the town took charge to put an end to this Norway



war zone. On August 12, 1880, the first NTA hall was dedicated. At the time they were called the Norway Red Ribbon Reform Club. This new building seated 200 people, at a cost of \$378. Most every town in the country had their own Red Ribbon Club and semi-annually representatives would meet at conventions to promote abstinence and closing bars. Even Susan B. Anthony came down to this area, to support the cause.

After thirty years of use, it was time to replace the old Temperance Hall. The Thorsen boys finished the foundation for the new building in July 1909. Earlier that spring, 32 teams and as many wagons delivered the brick from Ottawa. This new design of brick, hollow tile, was formed at the **new Pioneer plant in Ottawa**, a subsidiary of

the National Fire Proofing Company. Years later, in 1956, the land used by the Pioneer plant, broke ground for the **new Central School** and now today, the new \$26M YMCA. September 1909, George Wortman put up the orange tile blocks for the walls, then plastered the interior walls prior to the dedication. Under the direction of Rev. C. W. Hanson of the Norway Methodist Church, a new Temperance Hall was constructed. The new NTA cost about \$900, 36 ft. by 60 ft, seating 300. It was dedicated on October 31, 1909. Members of the NTA shared their talents such as musical selections at the meetings they held. This allowed residents in the community to congregate and catch up on any news.



**Pioneer plant**

School graduations were held in the hall where all the area one-room school students would gather for the occasion. This was the first of many movements

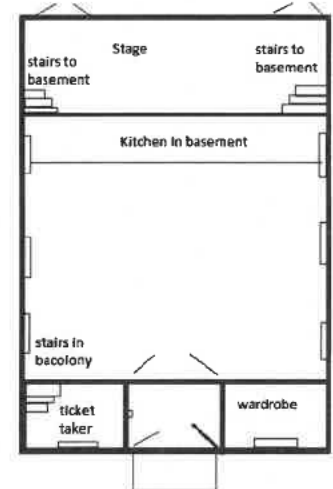


**Central School 1956**

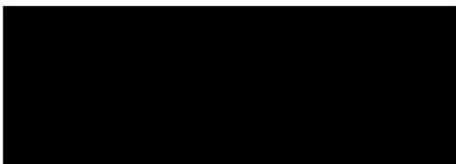
toward school consolidation. Many small towns had a basketball team and Norway's team would play their home games in the NTA Hall. Local groups performed plays or held dinners as fund raisers for their organizations in the hall. Until the advancement of communication, most

small rural towns needed somewhere to share the news and activities of their community. The Temperance Hall was that place for Norway, Illinois. Regular meetings were held until 1956 when they dissolved the organization, and the building was sold. The money from the sale was divided evenly and given to the three churches in the community: Fox River Lutheran, Norway Methodist and the Latter-Day Saints.

During the glory days of the NTA, from 1909-1956, it was the social epicenter and heart of the community. During its 47 years of use, this building was used for 63 meetings, 47 wedding showers and celebrations, 147 parties and dances, 66 fundraisers, at least 9 graduations, numerous basketball games, and 55 stage plays. In 1909, their first fundraiser was an Oyster Supper and by 1939 they were fundraising a new furnace. In June 1941, the NTA was the meeting place for all the area townships, to learn about the new Rural Electric program. In 1954, square dancing was introduced, along with square dance classes.



David Johnson  
Norsk Museum  
Board President  
Slooper Historian



[www.NorskMuseum.org](http://www.NorskMuseum.org)

## 8-12-1880 Hall Dedication

On Saturday last a hall, erected by the **Norway** red ribbon club, was dedicated to the cause of temperance. It is a one story building, has a seating capacity of two hundred, and cost \$372. Temperance people were in attendance from the surrounding country in large numbers, and the occasion was one which will be remembered for years by the residents of the village and vicinity. The forenoon exercises consisted of singing by the Newark choir, prayer by Rev. J. G. Campbell, an address of welcome by the president of the club, Mr. Ingalls, a historical address on the "Ups and Downs of the Club," by Mr. Ingalls, reading of a paper reciting the work of the club in securing the erection of the building, address by Mrs. Hanson, presenting Bible, stand and flag, donated by the ladies, a response by the president, and

dedicatory address by W. E. Bowman. Dinner—prepared by the ladies and served on a table one hundred feet long to all who would partake, free of expense—followed, and then short addresses by H. H. Matlock, Ottawa, J. H. Fowler, Newark, Rev. Mr. Smith, LaSalle, Rev. J. G. Campbell, Newark, D. Hurd, Marquette, and Mrs. Nickerson, Neeson, together with two recitations by little girls—one about "Hotel Life," the other "Mrs. O'Leary's Cow" and the Chicago fire. A letter from George Woodford was read.

About \$100 were collected from the crowd to liquidate unpaid bills and furnish the hall with needed articles.

## 1909 building new NTA

Rev. Hanson was in Chicago last week.

F. Ingles is on the sick list at this writing.

Harry Uglund was at Severi Thompson's Sunday.

Mrs. Severi Thompson is still on the sick list.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Hanson went to Chicago last week.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Hagen visited with Mrs. S. Hodney Sunday.

Mr. S. Uglund commenced moving some of his furniture last week.

Geo. C. Borchsenius has been having an attack of jaundice, but is some better.

Francis Selky and wife are entertaining Mrs. Selky's brother, of Iowa, this week.

The **Norway** schoolhouse was on fire Monday, which was not extinguished until the roof was nearly burned off. Thanks are due to the promptness of the people for their aid.

The **temperance** drama given by the **Norway** Temperance association in N. T. A. hall Tuesday and Wednesday evenings will be played in Newark Saturday evening, Feb. 6th. The receipts will be used in building the new hall.

Your correspondent is requested by J. G. Gabrielson, of the **Norway** Temperance association, to return thanks to all who contributed to the fund for the new hall. The subscriptions aggregated \$194.

### OTTAWA PRODUCT SHIPPED TO CANADA

National Fire Proofing Company Has  
Contract for 216 Car Loads  
of Material.

The Pioneer plant of the National Fireproofing company, of this city, is working at full capacity to fill the large orders that have been received within the past few weeks.

One of the largest orders received comes from Canada and requires 216 car loads of the vitrified porous building tile. An average of six car loads is being sent to Chicago every day to fill this order. At Chicago it is transferred to a large lake steamer and transported to Port Williams, Canada, where bins for the storage of cereals are being constructed. The delivery of the tile began March 24th, and it is expected the order will be filled by May 1st.

At present 150 men are employed at the Ottawa plant, and if business increases as materially in the future as within the past month more men will be added.

The new **temperance** hall, which is under construction at **Norway**, will be built of the product of the Pioneer plant. Several days ago thirty-two teams and as many wagons, owned by residents in the vicinity of **Norway**, came to Ottawa and loaded for shipping material to that structure.

F. Ingles was in Ottawa Wednesday. The Thorsen boys finished the foundation for the new N. T. A. hall last week.

Geo. Uglund bought a horse of Ingles Bros. last week.

Miss Mina Nelson spent Sunday with Miss Edna Holman.

A number of our people were hunting pearls Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Uglund and family visited at S. Uglund's Sunday.

Miss Mabel Hodman entertained a number of her friends Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Hagen and son called at Mrs. S. Hodney's Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Thorsen spent Sunday at Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Erickson's.

A few of our boys attended the social at Silas Johnson's last Saturday evening.

Miss Josie Johnson returned from Aurora Saturday, where she spent the past week.

The **Norway** Temperance association will give an ice cream social next Saturday evening. Everybody is invited.

## 1909 NTA Dedication

Miss Ethel Knapp is teaching in the Springstead district, Miss Vera Heavens in the Hess district and Miss Elma Omundson in Miller township.

The Temperance club of Norway are building a hall 36x60 feet. George Wortman is putting up the walls, which are of hollow tile.

The seats for the new school house did not arrive in time to be placed in the rooms last week, so the opening of the school has been postponed for a week.

Ward, Danderville, who has been

will soon be able to leave the hospital.

George Wortman is plastering the temperance hall in Norway. The dedication is to take place on the 31st if the building is completed in time.

The Temperance club of Norway are building a hall 36x60 feet. George Wortman is putting up the walls, which are of hollow tile.

The seats for the new school house did not arrive in time to be placed in the rooms last week, so the opening of the school has been postponed for a week.

### NORWAY TEMPERANCE HALL TO BE DEDICATED OCT. 31ST

The dedication of the new building of the Norway Temperance association will be held with appropriate services October 31st. The program follows:

Afternoon session—2 o'clock.

Music—N. T. A. orchestra.

Song—N. T. A. octette.

Scripture reading and prayer by

Rev. P. C. Norman.

Piano solo—Lillian Hanson.

Address—Rev. H. Moser.

Song—N. T. A. octette.

Music—N. T. A. orchestra.

Evening session—7:30 o'clock.

Music—N. T. A. orchestra.

Song—N. T. A. octette.

Scripture reading and prayer by

Rev. Hanson.

Piano solo—Lillian Hanson.

Dedicatory address—Rev. O. A.

Mortvedt.

Song—N. T. A. octette.

Music—N. T. A. orchestra.

An oyster supper will be served in the dining room from 8 to 7 o'clock.

## Matt Asselmeier

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**From:** Itle, Ken <kitle@wje.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 2:29 PM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Cc:** Jeff Wehrli; Christina Burns  
**Subject:** RE: [External]RE: August Kendall County HPC Meeting

Hello Matt:

No real deadline for volunteers, but I'd like to firm up an initial list this month. We definitely should do a training day (including some of my newer colleagues also). Probably that training will be in early September so the field survey can ramp up.

I copied you in my reply to an e-mail from Seward Twp. resident Joan Soltwisch, who may be willing to be a volunteer.

-Ken

### **Kenneth M. Itle**

Associate Principal

### **Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.**

*Engineers / Architects / Materials Scientists*

330 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, Illinois 60062

tel 847.272.7400 | direct 847.753.6465

www.wje.com

kitle@wje.com

**From:** Matt Asselmeier <masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 11, 2025 11:33 AM  
**To:** Itle, Ken <kitle@wje.com>  
**Cc:** Jeff Wehrli <jeffw.ent.2022@gmail.com>; Christina Burns <cburns@kendallcountyil.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [External]RE: August Kendall County HPC Meeting

Do we have a deadline by which volunteers would sign-up?

Did we want to a volunteer training like we did for the previous structure surveys?

Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM  
Director  
Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning  
807 West John Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560-9249  
PH: 630-553-4139  
Fax: 630-553-4179

## Current listings

[\[edit\]](#)

| <sup>[3]</sup> | Name on the Register                                            | Image                                                                                                              | Date listed <sup>[4]</sup>       | Location                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1              | <a href="#">Bristol Congregational Church</a>                   | <br><a href="#">More images</a>   | September 6, 2016<br>(#16000580) | 107 W. Center St.<br> <a href="#">41°38'51"N 88°26'50"W</a>                                                                                                                                 |
| 2              | <a href="#">Chicago, Burlington &amp; Quincy Railroad Depot</a> | <br><a href="#">More images</a>   | November 12, 1993<br>(#93001238) | 101 W. Main St.<br> <a href="#">41°39'44"N 88°32'17"W</a>                                                                                                                                   |
| 3              | <a href="#">Downtown Oswego Historic District</a>               |                                  | August 15, 2022<br>(#100007995)  | Roughly bounded by one-half blk. north of Jackson St., the alleys immediately west and east of Main St., one-half block south of Washington St.<br> <a href="#">41°41'02"N 88°21'08"W</a> |
| 4              | <a href="#">Evelyn Site</a>                                     | <a href="#">Upload image</a>                                                                                       | December 19, 1978<br>(#78001159) | Midway between Newark and Lisbon Center Rds of Big Grove Rd. <sup>[5]</sup><br> <a href="#">41°31'49"N 88°30'26"W</a>                                                                     |
| 5              | <a href="#">Farnsworth House</a>                                | <br><a href="#">More images</a> | October 7, 2004<br>(#04000867)   | 14520 River Rd.<br> <a href="#">41°38'15"N 88°32'07"W</a>                                                                                                                                 |
| 6              | <a href="#">Kendall County Courthouse</a>                       | <br><a href="#">More images</a> | November 12, 1998<br>(#98001354) | 109 W. Ridge St.<br> <a href="#">41°38'25"N 88°26'53"W</a>                                                                                                                                |

| [3] | Name on the Register                                                    | Image                                                                                                              | Date listed <sup>[4]</sup>       | Location                                                                                                                                         |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7   | <a href="#">Plano Hotel</a>                                             | <br><a href="#">More images</a>   | November 12, 1993<br>(#93001239) | 120 W. Main St.<br> <a href="#">41°39'44"N 88°32'21"W</a>     |
| 8   | <a href="#">Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints</a> | <br><a href="#">More images</a>   | November 2, 1990<br>(#90001724)  | 304 S. Center Ave.<br> <a href="#">41°39'33"N 88°32'09"W</a>  |
| 9   | <a href="#">Albert H. Sears House</a>                                   | <br><a href="#">More images</a>   | January 29, 1987<br>(#86003720)  | 603 E. North St.<br> <a href="#">41°39'55"N 88°31'49"W</a>    |
| 10  | <a href="#">Lewis Steward House</a>                                     | <br><a href="#">More images</a> | November 28, 2003<br>(#03001200) | 611 E. Main St.<br> <a href="#">41°39'54"N 88°31'47"W</a>   |
| 11  | <a href="#">Yorkville School</a>                                        | <br><a href="#">More images</a> | January 24, 1995<br>(#94001600)  | 201 W. Center St.<br> <a href="#">41°38'52"N 88°26'53"W</a> |

## Matt Asselmeier

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**From:** Scott Mehaffey <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 11:43 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Cc:** Kristin Lochner  
**Subject:** RE: [External]Re: Gerald Savage Contact Information

Matt,

Kristin can respond with information about Roots & Reflections on October 11 and Fall Festival on October 12. No specific programming around Indigenous history is planned right now, but of course our interpretive wall, introductory video, and exhibition guide explore the subject somewhat. Our fall exhibition by Tom Rossiter focuses on the relationship of the house and the land.

All best,  
Scott

**From:** Matt Asselmeier <masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 9:47 AM  
**To:** Scott Mehaffey <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Kristin Lochner <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: [External]Re: Gerald Savage Contact Information

[CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.]

Scott:

Do you have an update on your October 12<sup>th</sup> event and any update on programming with Native Americans with a history in Kendall County?

Thanks,

Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM  
Director  
Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning  
807 West John Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560-9249  
PH: 630-553-4139  
Fax: 630-553-4179

## Matt Asselmeier

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**From:** Solberg, Derek <Derek.Solberg@Illinois.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 12:30 PM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** RE: [External]Millhurst Rd. item

Matt,

The site is still awaiting word on FY26 approval.

Thanks,  
Derek

Derek Solberg  
Site Superintendent  
**Shabbona Lake State Park**  
**Silver Springs State Park**  
4201 Shabbona Grove Road  
Shabbona, IL 60550  
815.824.2106



**From:** Matt Asselmeier <masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 9:56 AM  
**To:** Solberg, Derek <Derek.Solberg@Illinois.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [External]Millhurst Rd. item

Derek:

Was funding for this project approved in FY26?

Thanks,

Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP, CFM  
Director  
Kendall County Planning, Building & Zoning  
807 West John Street  
Yorkville, IL 60560-9249  
PH: 630-553-4139  
Fax: 630-553-4179

**From:** Solberg, Derek <Derek.Solberg@Illinois.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 16, 2025 3:27 PM

**To:** Matt Asselmeier <[masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov](mailto:masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: [External]Millhurst Rd. item

Matt,

The roof of the tenant house was approved but not funded in FY25 (ended 6/30/25). We're attempting to get it approved in FY26. The roof is the highest priority.

I am off on Monday, July 21 and will not be able to be at the meeting. Thank you for the invitation, hopefully I can attend at some point.

Derek

Derek Solberg  
Site Superintendent  
**Shabbona Lake State Park**  
**Silver Springs State Park**  
4201 Shabbona Grove Road  
Shabbona, IL 60550  
815.824.2106





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**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, BUILDING & ZONING**

111 West Fox Street • Yorkville, IL • 60560  
(630) 553-4141 Fax (630) 553-4179

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**POLICY FOR THE NOTIFICATION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
COMMISSION OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS FOR ALTERATIONS AND DEMOLITIONS  
ON CERTAIN PROPERTIES**

1. Whenever a party applies for a permit for exterior alterations or demolition on properties identified as Contributing, Local Landmark Potential, or National Register Potential in an historic structure survey undertaken under the authority of Kendall County, the Planning, Building and Zoning Department shall notify the Kendall County Historic Preservation Commission of said application prior to the issuance of the applicable permit.
2. In notifying the Historic Preservation Commission, the Planning, Building and Zoning Department shall supply the Historic Preservation Commission with a description of the proposed alteration or demolition as supplied by the applicant and the contact information for the applicant.
3. Nothing in this policy shall be construed as requiring the Historic Preservation Commission to comment on the application.
4. This policy shall not supersede or amend any review requirements or procedures outlined in the Historical Preservation Chapter of the Kendall County Code.
5. Except as required by the Historical Preservation Chapter of the Kendall County Code, nothing in this policy shall be construed as requiring the Planning, Building and Zoning Department to delay the issuance of a permit due to lack of comment or requests to the applicant by the Historic Preservation Commission.

Approved by majority vote of the Planning Building and Zoning Committee on February 10, 2025.

## Matt Asselmeier

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**From:** Itle, Ken <kitle@wje.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 11:29 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]RE: Landmarking Cemeteries Question

CAUTION - This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Matt:

Short answer, yes, cemeteries are often landmarked.

This National Register bulletin (while a little old) provides some useful guidance (based on National Register criteria, though local criteria will be similar):

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB41-Complete.pdf>

For cemeteries that are still active for new burials, there are a couple ways to approach it:

1. There may be a historic section that is mostly full or closed, and the landmark boundaries can be kept compact, excluding the section(s) where current and future burials typically are made.
2. The cemetery may be mostly full, in which case a few newer / future burials would not be likely to affect its historic integrity.
3. The cemetery may be mostly empty, in which case newer / future burials might overwhelm the few historic burials, in which case it may not be a candidate for landmark status. In this case, perhaps there are individual markers or mausoleums that are artistically significant and worthwhile to landmark individually.
4. Landmark commission review would not be expected for each new burial, new gravemarkers etc. Only overall design changes (e.g., a new maintenance building, new paved roadways, a new wall or fence around the cemetery, adding a flagpole and benches) would trigger any preservation review.

### **Kenneth M. Itle**

Associate Principal

### **Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.**

*Engineers / Architects / Materials Scientists*

330 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, Illinois 60062

tel 847.272.7400 | direct 847.753.6465

[www.wje.com](http://www.wje.com)

kitle@wje.com

**From:** Matt Asselmeier <masselmeier@kendallcountyil.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 19, 2024 8:27 AM

**To:** Itle, Ken <kitle@wje.com>

**Subject:** Landmarking Cemeteries Question

Ken:

# NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN

Technical information on comprehensive planning, survey of cultural resources, and registration in  
the National Register of Historic Places



U.S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Cultural Resources  
Interagency Resources Division

## GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATING AND REGISTERING CEMETERIES AND BURIAL PLACES



**Mission:** As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally-owned public lands and natural and cultural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. Administration.

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*(Cover Photo). The East Parish Burying Ground in Newton, Massachusetts, is an important link to the city's 17th century origins and illustrates the characteristic features of a dense concentration of tablet-type markers bearing grim epitaphs and carved imagery. (Thelma Fleishman, 1981).*

# **NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN 41**

## **GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATING AND REGISTERING CEMETERIES AND BURIAL PLACES**

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# PREFACE

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The creation of the National Register of Historic Places in 1966 provided the first national recognition for historic properties possessing State or local significance, and uniform standards for evaluating them. The National Register's Criteria for Evaluation established the threshold for defining the qualities that would make such a property worthy of preservation, but also needed to ensure credibility through adherence to standards acceptable to relevant professional disciplines. Through the special requirements of the Criteria Considerations, the criteria both caution against subjective enthusiasm for certain types of resources, and also reinforce the importance of objective historical analysis.

In the legislative history of the 1980 Amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Congress

indicated a desire that the Secretary of the Interior review National Register Criteria for Evaluation from time to time to ensure their effectiveness in carrying out the policies of the Act. In 1986, upon the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, the National Park Service organized such a review. In their December 17, 1986, report, those who reviewed the criteria concluded that no revision of criteria wording was warranted, but recommended several issues that could benefit from clarification through additional published guidance. The application of National Register criteria to graves and cemeteries was one such issue.

A greater appreciation has evolved in both scholarship and public perception for the important historical themes that graves, cemeteries, and other types of

burial places and features can represent. The growing emphasis on the history of ordinary individuals, grass roots movements, cultural and designed landscapes, and various cultural groups has nurtured this evolution. At the same time, the identification, maintenance, and preservation of burial places is increasingly threatened through neglect, ignorance, and vandalism. This publication is intended to focus attention on these resources and provide detailed guidance on the qualities that render burial places significant representatives of our history worthy of preservation.

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# I. INTRODUCTION

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Individual and collective burial places can reflect and represent in important ways the cultural values and practices of the past that help instruct us about who we are as a people. Yet for profoundly personal reasons, familial and cultural descendants of the interred often view graves and cemeteries with a sense of reverence and devout sentiment that can overshadow objective evaluation. Therefore, cemeteries and graves are among those properties that ordinarily are not considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places unless they meet special requirements. The National Register Criteria for Evaluation include considerations by which burial places may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register. To qualify for listing under Criteria A (association with events), B (association with people), or C (design), a cemetery or grave must meet not only the basic criteria, but also the special requirements of Criteria Considerations C or D, relating to graves and cemeteries.<sup>1</sup>

Burial places evaluated under Criterion D for the importance of the information they may impart do not have to meet the requirements for the Criteria Considerations. These sites generally have been considered as archeological sites. It is important to remember that although cemeteries and other burial places may be evaluated for their potential to yield information, they also may possess great value to those who are related culturally to the people buried there.

Roughly 1,700 cemeteries and burial places in all parts of the country have been entered in the National Register since 1966, either as individual listings

or because they are part of historic districts.<sup>2</sup> These numbers reflect the essential presence of burial places in the cultural landscape. Various factors have contributed to the continuing trend of registration. Clearly important is the growing literature on funerary art and architecture, and on landscapes. With greater frequency since the 1960s, studies in American culture have treated not only the form and symbolism of gravemarkers, but also the social and spiritual values expressed in burial placements and the organization of burying grounds — including the different attitudes about death held by the various cultural groups that make up our society.

Though the tradition of cleaning up and beautifying old cemeteries is a long one, the current interest in these subjects partly owes to widespread incidents of abandonment, theft, vandalism, real estate development, and environmental hazards such as acid rain, which have pushed cemeteries to the forefront of preservation issues. National Register listing is an important step in preserving cemeteries because such recognition often sparks community interest in the importance of these sites in conveying the story of its past. Listing also gives credibility to State and local efforts to preserve these resources for their continuing contribution to the community's identity. The documentation contained in surveys and nominations of these historic burying places — especially those cemeteries that are neglected or threatened — is the key to their better protection and management. This information has a variety of uses, including public education; planning by local, State, or Federal agencies; or

publication. The purpose of this bulletin is to guide Federal agencies, State historic preservation offices, Certified Local Governments, preservation professionals, and interested groups and individuals in evaluating, documenting, and nominating cemeteries, burial places and related types of property to the National Register.

The resources or types of properties relating to mortuary customs in the United States and its associated territories vary from region to region and age to age according to prevailing spiritual beliefs and methods of caring for the dead. The burial mound of prehistoric populations in the Mississippi River Valley, the tablet-filled graveyard of the Colonial period, the park-like "rural" cemetery of the early-to-mid 19th century, and the Art Deco mausoleum and crematorium of the modern industrial age — all are distinct manifestations of the cultures and environments in which they were created. These places are capable of providing insight to the cultural values of preceding generations unless they have been looted, severely vandalized, or compromised by development or natural forces. To measure the significance of burial places in American culture, we must know something of their geographic extent, the historic events affecting their creation, the span of time in which they evolved, their ceremonial functions, their aesthetic value, the reasons for the location and orientation of graves, and the underlying meaning of their embellishments.

This bulletin defines the term "burial place" broadly as a location where the dead are prepared for burial or cremation, or where the remains of the dead are placed. A burial place may be a

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<sup>1</sup> The discussion of the criteria begins on page 9, and the requirements of the considerations on page 14. For a list of the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and the Criteria Considerations, see p. 33.

<sup>2</sup> For information on the National Register, contact the State Historic Preservation Officer in your State, or The National Register of Historic Places, Interagency Resources Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127.

single feature, ranging from the grandly monumented tomb of a national leader to an isolated grave expediently prepared alongside a battlefield or emigrant route. Other burial places are more complex, such as compound burial sites and cemeteries developed after deliberate selection and arrangement of the landscape. In Native American and Pacific Island cultures, certain burial places were ephemeral because they took place above ground. However, where evidence remains of cremation areas and sites traditionally used for scaffold and other encasement burials, such places would be encompassed by the general classification, burial place.

Cemeteries and burial places traditionally have been regarded as sacred and inviolate, especially by those whose ancestors are buried there. Recently, the concern of Native Americans about appropriate and respectful disposition of burial remains and objects of their

descendants has resulted in greater sensitivity toward those for whom a burial place has familial or cultural importance. The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-601) sets out the rights of Indian Tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations regarding human remains, funerary and sacred objects, and other culturally significant objects for which they can demonstrate lineal descent or cultural affiliation. One of the main purposes of the legislation is to protect Native American graves and related items, and to control their removal. The Act encourages the avoidance of archeological sites that contain burials and also makes Federal agencies responsible for consulting Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian groups when they encounter such sites, either in the course of planned excavations, or through inadvertent discovery. Consultation is required to determine

the appropriate treatment of human remains and cultural objects. Many States, also, have passed legislation that addresses the discovery and disposition of graves.

Several factors resulted in a decision to omit detailed guidance on identifying, evaluating, and documenting archeological sites that contain burials, and on appropriate methods for studying them, from this bulletin. These factors include the specialized nature of investigating these burials, ongoing debates over the appropriate treatment of such sites, and evolving policies and procedures relating to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Nevertheless, references, examples, and brief discussions of prehistoric burials appear throughout this bulletin in recognition that they may be eligible for National Register listing.

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## II. BURIAL CUSTOMS AND CEMETERIES IN AMERICAN HISTORY

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The types of cemeteries and burial places that might qualify for National Register listing are many and varied. They include:

- town cemeteries and burial grounds whose creation and continuity reflect the broad spectrum of the community's history and culture;
- family burial plots that contribute to the significance of a farmstead;
- beautifully designed garden cemeteries that served as places of rest and recreation;
- graveyards that form an important part of the historic setting for a church or other religious building being nominated;
- formal cemeteries whose collections of tombs, sculptures, and markers possess artistic and architectural significance;
- single or grouped grave-stones that represent a distinctive folk tradition;
- graves or graveyards whose survival is a significant or the only reminder of an important person, culture, settlement, or event; and
- burial places whose location, grave markers, landscaping, or other

physical attributes tell us something important about the people who created them.

Examples of these and many other types of burial places appear throughout this bulletin, especially in the section on applying the criteria. Some types of burial places represent events, customs, or beliefs common to many cultures, locations, or time periods. Others are unique representatives of specific people or events. Background information on some of the traditions in American burials that are so common that numerous examples have been, or are likely to be, identified and nominated is discussed briefly in this section; the omission of other traditions or historical developments should not be interpreted as precluding cemeteries or graves that do not fit into the topics that are included. For example, community cemeteries that reflect early settlement or various aspects of an area's long history

may not fall into one of the traditions described in this section. Yet they frequently are nominated and listed in the National Register.

### NATIVE AMERICAN BURIAL CUSTOMS

Native American burial customs have varied widely, not only geographically, but also through time, having been shaped by differing environments, social structure, and spiritual beliefs. Prehistoric civilizations evolved methods of caring for the dead that reflected either the seasonal movements of nomadic societies or the lifeways of settled communities organized around fixed locations. As they evolved, burial practices included various forms of encasement, sub-surface interment, cremation, and exposure. Custom

*The Crawford-Dorsey House and Cemetery near Lovejoy, Clayton County, Georgia, represent a historic Southern plantation; the earliest graves are covered by seashells. (James R. Lockhart, 1983)*



usually dictated some type of purification ritual at the time of burial. Certain ceremonies called for secondary interments following incineration or exposure of the body, and in such cases, the rites might extend over some time period. Where the distinctions in social status were marked, the rites were more elaborate.

The Plains Indians and certain Indians of the Pacific Northwest commonly practiced above-ground burials using trees, scaffolds, canoes, and boxes on stilts, which decayed over time. More permanent were earthen constructions, such as the chambered mounds and crematory mounds of the Indians of the Mississippi River drainage. In some areas of the Southeast and Southwest, cemeteries for urn burials, using earthenware jars, were common.

After contact with European Americans, Native American cultures adopted other practices brought about by religious proselytizing, intermarriage, edict, and enforcement of regulations. The Hopi, Zuni, and other Pueblo peoples of Arizona and New Mexico were among the first to experience Hispanic contact in the 16th century, and subsequently, their ancestral lands were colonized. At the pueblos — stone and adobe villages — where Roman Catholic missions were established, burials within church grounds or graveyards consecrated in accordance with Christian doctrine were encouraged for those who had been converted to the faith. However, Native Americans also continued their traditional burial practices, when necessary in secret.

Throughout the period of the fur trade in the North Pacific, beginning in the late 18th century, Russian Orthodox missions were established among the native populations settled along the coastline and mainland interior of Russian-occupied Alaska. At Eklutna, a village at the head of Cook Inlet, north of Anchorage, an Athabaskan cemetery adjacent to the 19th century Church of St. Nicholas (Anchorage Borough - Census Area), illustrates continuity of a burial custom widely recorded in historic times, that of constructing gable-roofed wooden shelters over graves to house the spirit of the dead. In the cemetery at Eklutna, the spirit houses are arranged in regular rows, have brightly-painted exteriors fronted by Greek crosses, and are surmounted by comb-like ridge crests. In this particular example, variation in the size of the shelters is an indication of social status, while clan affiliations are identified by color and by the styling of the crest.

## COLONIAL AND EARLY AMERICAN BURIAL CUSTOMS

The earliest episodes of Spanish, French, and English settlement on the eastern shore of North America followed voyages of exploration in the 16th century. The original attempts at colonizing were made in Florida, the Carolinas, and Virginia. In 1565, the first lasting European community was established by the Spanish on the east coast of Florida, at St. Augustine, which survived attack from competing forces in colonization of the New World. An essential feature of the fortified settlement was the Roman Catholic mission church with its associated burial ground. Where they are uncovered in the course of modern day improvement projects, unmarked burials of the 16th and 17th centuries provide evidence for identifying the historic locations of successors to the founding church — sites that gradually disappeared in the layerings of later town development. The archeological record shows shroud-wrapped interments were customary in the city's Spanish Colonial period. Traces of coffins or coffin hardware do not appear in Colonial burials before the beginning of English immigration to the area in the 18th century. Graves of the Spanish colonists occurred in consecrated ground within or adjacent to a church. They followed a pattern of regular, compact spacing and east-facing orientation. These characteristics, together with arms crossed over the chest and the presence of brass shroud pins are a means of distinguishing Christian burials from precolonial Native American burials sometimes associated with the same site.

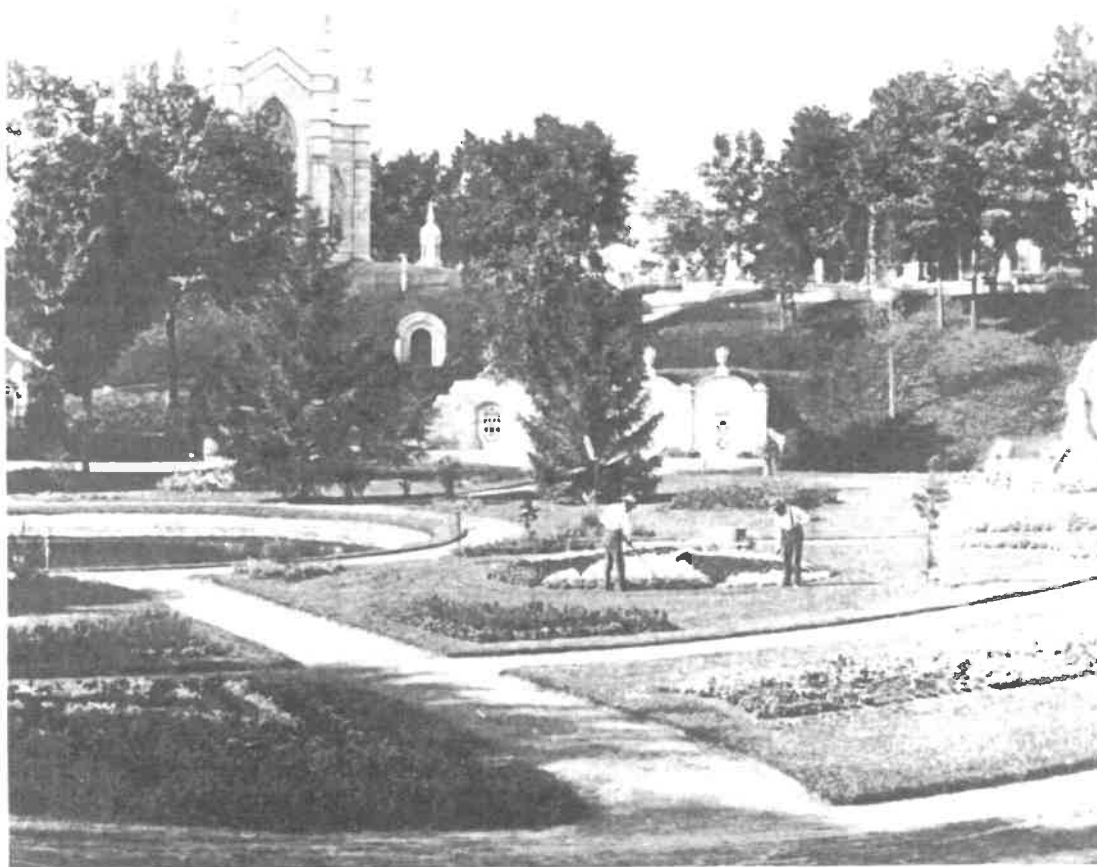
With the notable exception of the secular graveyards of Puritan New England, the ideal during the Colonial period in English colonies was to bury the dead in churchyards located in close proximity to churches. Churchyard burials have remained standard practice into the 20th century for European Americans and other cultures in the Judeo-Christian tradition. Early Puritans rejected churchyard burials as they rebelled against other "papist" practices, as heretical and idolatrous. Instead, many 17th century New England towns set aside land as common community burial grounds. Headstone images from this period also reflect the rejection of formal Christian

iconography in favor of more secular figures, such as skulls representing fate common to all men.

In areas such as the Middle Atlantic region and the South, settlement patterns tended to be more dispersed than in New England. Although early towns such as Jamestown established church cemeteries, eventually burial in churchyards became impractical for all but those living close to churches. As extensive plantations were established to facilitate the production of large scale cash crops, such as tobacco, several factors often made burial in a churchyard problematical: towns were located far apart, geographically large parishes were often served by only a single church, and transportation was difficult, the major mode being by ship. The distance of family plantations from churches necessitated alternative locations for cemeteries, which took the form of family cemeteries on the plantation grounds. They usually were established on a high, well-drained point of land, and often were enclosed by a fence or wall. Although initially dictated by settlement patterns, plantation burials became a tradition once the precedent was set. Along with the variety of dependencies, agricultural lands, and other features, family cemeteries help illustrate the degree of self-sufficiency sustained by many of these plantations. Pruitt Oaks, Colbert County, Alabama, is one of many National Register examples of such a plantation complex.

## ORIGINS OF THE "RURAL" CEMETERY MOVEMENT

In the young republic of the United States, the "rural" cemetery movement was inspired by romantic perceptions of nature, art, national identity, and the melancholy theme of death. It drew upon innovations in burial ground design in England and France, most particularly Père Lachaise Cemetery in Paris, established in 1804 and developed according to an 1815 plan. Based on the model of Mount Auburn Cemetery, founded at Cambridge, near Boston by leaders of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1831, America's "rural" cemeteries typically were established around elevated viewsites at the city outskirts. Mount Auburn was followed



*Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts, was a model for suburban landscaped cemeteries popular in the 19th century. Mount Auburn and other "rural" cemeteries of its kind inspired a movement for public parks. (Photographer unknown; ca. 1870. From the collection of the Mount Auburn Cemetery Archives)*

by the formation of Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia in 1836; Green Mount in Baltimore, 1838; Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn and Mount Hope Cemetery in Rochester, New York, in 1839; and ultimately many others.<sup>3</sup>

After the Civil War, reformers concerned about land conservation and public health agitated for revival of the practice of incineration and urn burial. The cremation movement gathered momentum rapidly around the turn of the century, particularly on the west coast, and resulted in construction of crematoriums in many major cities. Columbariums and community mausoleums were erected in cemeteries to expand the number of burials which could be accommodated with the least sacrifice of ground space.

Perpetual care lawn cemeteries or memorial parks of the 20th century

represent a transformation of the "rural" cemetery ideal that began in the last half of the 19th century. At Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati (Hamilton County), Ohio, superintendent Adolph Strauch introduced the lawn plan system, which deemphasized monuments in favor of unbroken lawn scenery, or common open space. Writing in support of this concept and the value of unified design, fellow landscape architect and cemetery engineer Jacob Weidenmann brought out *Modern Cemeteries: An Essay on the Improvement and Proper Management of Rural Cemeteries* in 1888. To illustrate his essay, Weidenmann diagrammed a variety of plot arrangements showing how areas could be reserved exclusively for landscaping for the enhancement of adjacent lots.

"Modern" cemetery planning was based on the keynotes of natural beauty

and economy. Whereas 19th century community cemeteries typically were organized and operated by voluntary associations which sold individual plots to be marked and maintained by private owners according to individual taste, the memorial park was comprehensively designed and managed by full-time professionals. Whether the sponsoring institution was a business venture or non-profit corporation, the ideal was to extend perpetual care to every lot and grave. The natural beauty of cemetery sites continued to be enhanced through landscaping, but rolling terrain was smoothed of picturesque roughness and hilly features. The mechanized equipment required to maintain grounds efficiently on a broad scale prompted standardization of markers flush with the ground level and the elimination of plot-defining barriers.

<sup>3</sup> Mount Auburn (Middlesex County), Laurel Hill (Philadelphia County), and Green Mount (Baltimore Independent City) are listed individually in the National Register. Because National Register files and published lists are organized by State and county, the name of the county is provided for each individually listed burial place cited in this bulletin. Other referenced cemeteries and burial places may be included in the National Register as part of larger historic properties, especially historic districts.

# THE "RURAL" CEMETERY MOVEMENT AND ITS IMPACT ON AMERICAN LANDSCAPE DESIGN

The "rural" cemetery movement, influenced by European trends in gardening and landscape design, in turn had a major impact on American landscape design. Early in the 19th century, the prevailing tradition was the romantic style of landscape gardening which in the previous century the English nobility and their gardeners had invented using classical landscape paintings as their models. English garden designers such as Lancelot "Capability" Brown, William Kent, Sir Uvedale Price, Humphrey Repton and John Claudius Loudon artfully improved vast country estates according to varying aesthetic theories. To achieve naturalistic effects, gracefully curving pathways and watercourses were adapted to rolling land forms. Contrast and variation were employed in the massing of trees and plants as well as the arrangement of ornamental features. The "picturesque" mode of 18th century landscaping was characterized by open meadows of irregular outline, uneven stands of trees, naturalistic lakes, accents of specimen plants and, here and there, incidental objects such as an antique statue or urn on a pedestal to lend interest and variety to the scene.

The "rural" cemeteries laid out by horticulturists in Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and New York in the 1830s were romantic pastoral landscapes of the picturesque type. Planned as serene and spacious grounds where the combination of nature and monuments would be spiritually uplifting, they came to be looked on as public parks, places of respite and recreation acclaimed for their beauty and usefulness to society. In the early "rural" cemeteries and in those which followed their pattern, hilly, wooded sites were enhanced by grading, selective thinning of trees, and massing of plant materials which directed views opening onto broad vistas. The cemetery gateway established separation from the workaday world, and a winding drive of gradual

ascent slowed progress to a stately pace. Such settings stirred an appreciation of nature and a sense of the continuity of life. By their example, the popular new cemeteries started a movement for urban parks that was encouraged by the writings of Andrew Jackson Downing and the pioneering work of other advocates of "picturesque" landscaping, most particularly Calvert Vaux and Frederick Law Olmsted, who collaborated in the design of New York City's Central Park.

With the rapid growth of urban centers later in the 19th century, landscape design and city planning merged in the work of Frederick Law Olmsted, the country's leading designer of urban parks. Olmsted and his partners were influential in reviving planning on a grand scale in the parkways they created to connect units of municipal park systems. Although Olmsted was more closely tied to the naturalistic style of landscape planning, his firm's work with Daniel H. Burnham in laying out grounds for the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago conformed to the classical principles of strong axial organization and bilateral symmetry. The central unifying element of the imposing exposition building group was a lengthy concourse, a lagoon, terminated by sculptural focal points at either end. Following the Chicago World's Fair, civic planning was based for some time on a formal, monumental vision of "the City Beautiful."

The historic relationship of cemetery and municipal park planning in America is well documented in *Park and Cemetery*, one of the earliest professional journals in the field of landscape architecture. Inaugurated in Chicago in 1891 and briefly published as *The Modern Cemetery*, a title that was resumed in 1933, the journal chronicles the growth of an industry and indicates the developing professionalism within related fields. For example, the Association of American Cemetery Superintendents was organized in 1887. Cemetery superintendents and urban park officials held a common interest in matters of design as well as horticulture and practical groundskeeping.

The tradition of naturalistic landscape design that was developed by Olmsted and his followers continued into the 20th century. Widely influential was the work of John C. Olmsted and Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., successors of the elder Olmsted and principals of the Olmsted Brothers firm which was consulted throughout the country on

matters of civic landscape design. But after 1900, parks and cemeteries took on aspects of formal landscape planning made fashionable by the "City Beautiful" movement and renewed interest in formal gardens of the Italian style. Typically, classical formality was introduced to early 20th century cemetery landscapes in the axial alignment of principal avenues of approach centered on building fronts, and also in cross axes terminated by rostrums, exedras, and other focal features drawn from various traditions in classical architecture. By the 1930s, newer cemeteries and memorial parks showed the influence of modernism in a general preference for buildings and monuments that were stripped of excessive decoration. Greek architecture, admired for its purity and simplicity, was the approved model for monumentation in the early modern age.

## MILITARY CEMETERIES

Military cemeteries, created for the burial of war casualties, veterans, and their dependents are located in nearly every State, as well as in foreign countries, and constitute an important type of American cemetery. There are over 200 cemeteries established by the Federal government for the burial of war casualties and veterans. These include national cemeteries, post cemeteries, soldiers' lots, Confederate and Union plots, American cemeteries overseas, and other burial grounds. Many States also have established veterans cemeteries. The majority of veterans, however, likely are buried in private and community cemeteries, sometimes in separate sections reserved for veterans.

During the American Revolution, soldiers were buried in existing burial grounds near the place of battle. One of the earliest types of organized American military cemetery was the post cemetery. Commanders at frontier forts of the early-to-mid 19th century buried their dead in cemetery plots marked off within the post reservations. Post cemetery registers reveal a fairly uniform system of recording burials, sometimes even including assigned grave numbers. Management of burial grounds fell to quartermaster officers. In 1850, the U.S. Congress called for the establishment of a cemetery outside Mexico City for Americans who died in the Mexican War. This was a precedent for the creation of permanent military cemeter-

ies over a decade before the creation of a national cemetery system.

During the Civil War, there was a critical shortage of cemetery space for large concentrations of troops. At first, this need was addressed through the acquisition of lots near general hospitals, where more soldiers died than in battle. As the war continued, however, it was clear that this was not an adequate solution. In 1862, Congress passed legislation authorizing the creation of a national cemetery system. Within the year, 14 national cemeteries were established. Most were located near troop concentrations, two were former post cemeteries, one was for the burial of Confederate prisoners and guards who died in a train accident, and several were transformed battlefield burial grounds. By the end of 1864, 13 more had been added. Two of the best known of the national cemeteries from the Civil War period are Arlington National Cemetery, established in 1864, and Andersonville, established in 1865. Arlington, the home of Confederate General Robert E. Lee at the beginning of the Civil War, was confiscated by the Union army in May of 1861. In 1864, on the recommendation of Brig. Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs, Quartermaster General of the Army, the grounds officially became a national cemetery. Andersonville became the final resting place of almost 13,000 soldiers who died there at the Confederate prisoner of war camp.

The establishment of Civil War-era military cemeteries often resulted from decisions by local commanders or by State civil authorities in conjunction with private associations. Burial grounds were established near battlefields, military posts, hospitals, and, later, veterans homes. Before the creation of the National Cemetery System, these burial grounds were referred to variously as national cemeteries, soldiers' lots, Confederate plots, Union plots, and post cemeteries. Many later were absorbed into the National Cemetery System.

Immediately after the Civil War, an ambitious search and recovery program initiated the formidable task of locating and reburying soldiers from thousands of scattered battlefield burial sites. By 1870, over 90 percent of the Union casualties — 45 percent of whose identity were unknown — were interred in national cemeteries, private plots, and post cemeteries. In 1867, Congress directed every national cemetery to be enclosed with a stone or iron fence, each gravesite marked with a headstone, and

superintendent quarters to be constructed. Although many national cemeteries contain Confederate sections, it was not until 1906 that Congress authorized marking the graves of Confederates who had died in Federal prisons and military hospitals. The post-Civil War reburial program also removed burials from abandoned military post cemeteries, particularly those in the western frontier, for interment into newly-created national cemeteries.

Following World War I, only 13 percent of the deceased returned to the United States were placed in national cemeteries; 40 percent of those who died were buried in eight permanent American cemeteries in Europe. Similarly, after World War II, 14 permanent cemeteries were created in foreign countries. Today, there are 24 American cemeteries located outside the United States, which are administered by the American Battle Monuments Commission.

Until 1933, the War Department administered most military cemeteries. That year an executive order transferred 11 national cemeteries near national military parks or battlefield sites already under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service to that agency. Today, the National Park Service administers 14 national cemeteries.

Originally, hospital military cemeteries associated with former National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers and former Veterans Bureau (later Veterans Administration) hospital reservations were not part of the national cemetery system. In 1973, the Department of the Army transferred 82 of the 84 remaining national cemeteries to the Veterans Administration — today the Department of Veterans Affairs — which had been created in 1930 from the merging of the National Homes and Veterans Bureau. Also in 1973, the 21 existing "VA" hospital cemeteries were recognized as part of the National Cemetery System. The system has continued to expand, and there now are 114 national cemeteries managed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, where more than two million Americans — including veterans from all of the country's wars and conflicts from the Revolutionary War to the Persian Gulf — are buried.

The total number of military and veterans burial places in the United States is unknown because there are numerous veterans plots in private and non-Federal public cemeteries. In 1991, 70 percent of the markers provided by the Federal government to mark new gravesites were delivered to private or State cemeteries, and the remainder to national cemeteries.



*The National Cemetery Section of Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky, includes burials of Union and Confederate soldiers, and veterans of the Spanish-American War. (Lexington Herald-Leader Newspaper, 1958)*

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# III. TYPES OF BURIAL PLACES AND ASSOCIATED FEATURES

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Distinctive mortuary features and burial places may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register as free-standing buildings and sites nominated individually. Others are eligible because they are significant in a larger context, as, for example, a mausoleum located in a cemetery or a family burial plot on a farmstead or plantation. Cemeteries have been included in the National Register as component elements of historic districts encompassing entire villages, military reservations, or industrial complexes, as well as in association with churches. When a cemetery is included in a larger historic district, it is evaluated like other resources in the district: it contributes to the district's historic significance if it dates from the historic period, relates to the district's significance, and retains integrity; or if it possesses significance independent of the district's. Cemeteries also may be historic districts in their own right.

A cemetery that is evaluated on an individual basis is treated either as a historic site or as a district made up of individual graves, their markers, and plot-defining characteristics. A cemetery that is a site may or may not possess above-ground features that convey their significant historic associations, but still must retain historic integrity. A cemetery district, like other historic districts, is more than an area composed of a collection of separate elements; it is a cohesive landscape

whose overall character is defined by the relationship of the features within it. More elaborate cemeteries may have, in addition to the basic cemetery features, ornamental plantings, boundary fences, road systems, gateways, and substantial architectural features such as mausoleums, chapels, and residences of sexton or superintendent — all requiring description and evaluation of significance.

Opposite are some of the types of properties or features that might be encountered in documenting and evaluating burial places. The list covers places for preparation and interment of the dead, commemorative objects, and a number of buildings and structures commonly associated with larger cemeteries (for definitions, see the Glossary, p. 28).

amphitheater  
bench  
burial cache  
burial mound  
burial mound complex  
burial site  
cairn  
cemetery  
chapel  
columbarium  
cremation area  
crematorium  
crypt  
fountain  
gatehouse  
grave  
gravemarker  
graveyard  
grave shelter  
greenhouse  
lych gate  
mausoleum  
memorial park  
monument  
mortuary  
office building  
ossuary  
pumphouse  
receiving tomb  
rostrum  
service building  
sexton's residence  
shelter house  
superintendent's residence  
tomb  
vault

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# IV. EVALUATING CEMETERIES AND BURIAL PLACES

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It is not essential that those evaluating cemeteries for potential National Register eligibility hold credentials in scholarly disciplines, but it is important that they be able to place the resource type in as broad a context as possible and to describe and analyze its components. Those not trained in the disciplines discussed below are encouraged to refer to the recommended sources listed at the end of the guidance, and to consult their local historical commission and State historic preservation office. They may wish to consult professionals who have had training or experience in archeology, anthropology, art history, architectural history, history of landscape architecture, horticulture, history American studies, cultural geography, or historic preservation. Within a number of these disciplines, the study of funerary art and custom is a specialized area. Appropriate expertise may extend to the fields of iconology, ethnology and folklore. Familiar with the terminology used to describe characteristic elements of prehistoric and historic burial sites, cemetery landscapes, buildings, and monuments, individuals in these fields may more easily be able to identify those elements in historic photographs, in plans, and upon inspection of a site.

Archeologists and anthropologists are qualified to evaluate the potential of burials to yield significant information about the past, and often are able to do so without disturbing the remains. Anthropologists and cultural geographers glean information from gravemarkers, inscriptions, and epitaphs, which reveal changing attitudes about death and afterlife, about demographics (the migration patterns of population groups), and about the prevalence of disease. The folklorist and anthropologist perceive meaning in the commonplace, traditional ways of treating graves that are untouched by the currents of high style monumentation.

Art and architectural historians are prepared to assess the visual qualities of

the resource, the elements of artistic and architectural style embodied in sculptural monument, gatehouse, and mausoleum. Landscape architectural historians can evaluate and document elements of historic landscape design. Those who specialize in the study of material culture are knowledgeable about the evolving techniques of manufacture and the icons (forms and symbols holding special meaning) used by monument makers in various historic periods. Historians are qualified to relate cemetery development to changing attitudes about death and burial, trends in community planning, aesthetic taste and choices, and historic events such as episodes of settlement and military actions.

## APPLYING THE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

To be eligible for the National Register, a cemetery or burial place must be shown to be significant under one or more of the four basic Criteria for Evaluation. Criteria A, B, C, and D indicate the several ways in which a property may be significant in American history, architecture (including the disciplines of landscape architecture and planning), archeology, engineering, and culture. Decisions about the relative significance of cemeteries and burial places can be made only with knowledge of the events, trends, and technologies that influenced practices of caring for and commemorating the dead, and with some concept of the quality and quantity of similar resources in the community, region, State, or nation. Such background provides the context for evaluating significance.

The term "context," as applied to the process of evaluation, may be described simply as the relevant social, political, economic, and environmental circumstances of the historic period in which a property was developed. By studying a burial place in its broadest possible context, and by applying the basic criteria, the researcher is able to recognize those resources which are significant in representing a given period and historic theme.

Within the broad patterns of American history, the National Register defines a number of "areas of significance." Areas of significance are equivalent to the historical or cultural themes that the property best represents. Some of the areas of significance relevant to burial places are art and architecture, landscape architecture, community planning and development, archeology, ethnic heritage, exploration and settlement, health/medicine, military history, religion, and social history. It is important when applying National Register criteria to keep in mind that, except for archeological sites and cemeteries nominated under Criterion D, burial places also must meet the special requirements of Criteria Considerations C or D, which refer to graves and cemeteries, and possibly to A (religious properties) or other Criteria Considerations.

*Criterion A: Properties can be eligible for the National Register if they are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.*

Under Criterion A, the events or trends with which the burial place is associated must be clearly important, and the connection between the burial place and its associated context must be unmistakable. There are many ways in which a cemetery might represent an important aspect of a community's or a culture's history through association with a specific event or by representing broader patterns of attitudes or behavior. For example, our legacy of community

cemeteries began in Colonial times. In Boston, when "Brother Johnson" died in 1630, his burial was soon followed by others close by. This property then became the first burial ground for the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and was the only Colonial burial ground in Boston for 30 years. Ultimately, it assumed the name of a later church constructed there, becoming King's Chapel Burying Ground (Suffolk County). Depending on the history of an area, the age required of a cemetery to represent early exploration, settlement, and development will vary. In Colorado, the Doyle Settlement (Pueblo County), established by early pioneer Joseph Doyle in 1859, was one of the earliest non-mining communities in the State. Once a self-contained unit consisting of residences, dining facility, store, flour mill, blacksmith shop, school, and granaries, its importance in the early development of southern Colorado is now represented by only the school, the cemetery, and building foundations.

A cemetery may represent a variety of important aspects of an area's early settlement and evolving sense of community. Union Cemetery, in Redwood City (San Mateo County), California, was the subject of the State's first cemetery legislation in 1859. Early in its history, it became the focal point

for an annual Memorial Day celebration, which grew over the years into one of the town's most important communal traditions. In addition, a study of the birthplaces of those buried there found at least 17 foreign countries and 26 States, demonstrating the ethnic and cultural diversity characteristic of early northern California communities.

Cemeteries may be significant for associations with specific events as well as long-term trends. The Kuamo'o Burials, Hawaii County, Hawaii, is the burial ground for warriors killed in a major battle in Hawaiian history. The Hawaiian ruling class traditionally had exercised power through a system of sacred rules, or *kapu*. After the death of Kamehameha I in 1819, authority was divided so that Kamehameha I's son Liholiho (Kamehameha II) controlled the secular government, and his nephew Kekuaokalani maintained the *kapu* system. When the new king acted to abolish the *kapu*, Kekuaokalani led an army in rebellion to protect the sacred traditions. Liholiho's forces prevailed, and the abolition of the *kapu* system, occurring the same year as the arrival of Christian missionaries, accelerated the assimilation of western culture. In contrast, Magnolia Cemetery, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, already was a cemetery when the Battle of Baton

Rouge took place there in 1862. Although the Confederates failed to expel the Union forces occupying the city, the ferocity of their attack helped persuade Federal leaders to evacuate. As a result, the Confederates were able to secure a stronghold for transporting supplies on the Mississippi River. Much of the rest of the battlefield has succumbed to urban development, but the cemetery retains its integrity from the Civil War period.

Battles are a common, but not the only type of, event associated with cemeteries and other burial places. The Mass Grave of the Mexican Miners, within Mount Calvary Cemetery, McAlester (Pittsburg County), Oklahoma, is the only site representing a major 1929 mining disaster. Mexicans played a major role in the area's mining industry and made up almost half of the casualties from the 1929 explosion. The creation of a mass grave for 24 of the Mexican victims, dug by State prisoners and initially marked with only a single wooden cross (ten stone family markers were added later), also is evocative of a time in mining history when terms of employment did not include survivors benefits.

The evolution of burial customs and memorializations also can be an important context for understanding our history. In the 19th century, romantic appreciation of nature and changing

*One of the few reminders of the vanished Doyle Settlement near Pueblo, Colorado, this cemetery also includes one of the state's best collections of carved Spanish headstones and represents the dual cultural influences on the community. (James Munch, 1979)*



attitudes about death and memorialization led to gradual abandonment of overcrowded urban graveyards and church cemeteries in favor of spacious, landscaped burial grounds on the city outskirts. The great "rural" cemeteries outlying major cities in the eastern United States and the Midwest were founded by voluntary associations in the 1830s and 1840s. Their popularity inspired a benevolent movement, led to the development of urban parks, and was the foundation of an entire industry. Although most of the Register-listed community cemeteries across the country that were established in their image before 1900 are documented under Criterion C only — for landscape architecture, and sometimes art or architecture — many also may meet National Register Criterion A in the areas of social history or community planning.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, American mortuary practices were greatly influenced by the cremation movement spurred by advocates in the medical and scientific community and a general awareness of the world's mounting population. The first national convention leading to formation of the Cremation Association of America was held at Detroit in 1913. In areas of the world where it was not in conflict with religious doctrine, the movement was well developed by the 1920s and 1930s. Public health laws were revised to allow hygienic disposal of the dead by incineration, and cremation societies were organized to promote and maintain private facilities. Some crematories were municipally owned. Typically, crematory design incorporated, in addition to the retort, a chapel and mausoleum, or columbarium. Frequently, the combination facility was sited in a conventional cemetery or memorial park. The spread of the movement related, in part, to the ideals of economy and efficiency that marked the early 20th century. The nation's early crematories and those representing later benchmarks in the broad reform movement would be eligible, in all likelihood, under Criterion A.

**Criterion B: Properties may be eligible for the National Register if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.**

Under Criterion B, the person or group of persons with which the burial place is associated must be of *outstanding* importance to the community, State, or nation, as required by Criteria Consideration C (see page 16). As an

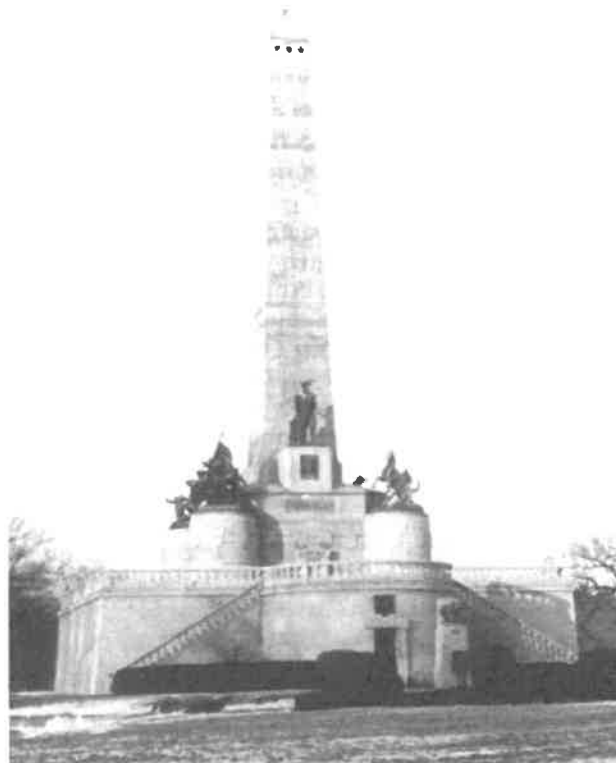
example, Abraham Lincoln's tomb in Springfield (Sangamon County), Illinois is significant as the final resting place of the martyred figure who, as the nation's 16th president, successfully defended the Union of States in the Civil War and drafted the Emancipation Proclamation of 1862-1863. While not all other properties directly associated with President Lincoln's productive life are lost, the tomb also is important, in part, under Criterion A as the focal point of a broad-based commemorative effort begun shortly after he was slain in 1865.

Graves of persons significant to a particular State, region of the country, or cultural group also may qualify for listing. The Free Frank McWorter Grave Site, also in Illinois (Pike County), is listed in the National Register for its significance in representing the accomplishments of a former slave. Free Frank McWorter purchased his own freedom and that of his wife with the profits of his business before moving to Illinois in 1830. In Illinois, he established a farm, engaged in land speculation, founded a prosperous frontier community, and secured the freedom of 13 additional family members. The gravesite is the only property that survives to represent his achievements

and his impact on this area of the State. In Utah, the Martin Harris Gravesite (Cache County) is listed as the State's only property associated with Martin Harris, one of three witnesses to the Book of Mormon, who also served as the first scribe to Mormon prophet Joseph Smith.

Cemeteries, as well as graves, may be eligible under Criterion B. Forestvale Cemetery, on the outskirts of Helena (Lewis and Clark County), Montana, is one of many National Register cemeteries that contain the graves of numerous persons who made outstanding contributions to the history of the State or area in which their graves are located. Among those buried in Forestvale are James Fergus, first commissioner of the territory, also credited with spearheading the formation of Fergus County; Cornelius Hedges, who played a prominent role in the development of the State's public education system and in the formation of Yellowstone National Park; J. Scott Harrison, the chief geological engineer who mapped all of Montana, including boundaries, mountains, principal rivers and streams, and some county borders; Albert Kleinschmidt, credited with the construction of the three largest irrigation

*The Lincoln Tomb, Springfield, Illinois, is the final resting place for Abraham Lincoln, his wife Mary Todd Lincoln, and three of his sons. Built between 1869 and 1874, it was the culmination of a broad-based community effort to memorialize the slain president. (Stephen Lissandrello, 1975)*



canals in the State; and W. A. Chessman, who constructed the Chessman Reservoir, ensuring a stable water supply for the city of Helena.<sup>4</sup>

**Criterion C:** *Properties may be eligible for the National Register if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.*

Under Criterion C, funerary monuments and their associated art works, buildings, and landscapes associated with burial places must be good representatives of their stylistic type or period and methods of construction or fabrication. Alternatively, such property types may represent the work of master artists, designers and craftsmen, or the highest artistic values of the period. Appropriate areas of significance would be architecture, art, or landscape architecture.

In the Colonial period, tablet-style gravemarkers typically were inscribed and embellished in low relief with the imagery first of death, and later also of resurrection, with various decorative symbols. Much of the work was done by stone carvers whose craftsmanship was of outstanding quality, recognizable in one burial ground after another by distinguishing motifs, craft techniques, or other signature marks. A 17th or 18th century graveyard containing a good representation of gravemarkers of the period and region would be eligible under Criterion C if the body of work is documented sufficiently to provide a basis for comparison. Attribution of particular works to a specific master carver, family, or group of artisans would be helpful, but is not essential to the documentation. Quality craftsmanship or distinctive folk art may be eligible even if the identity of the artisan is unknown. For example, the Hebron Church, Cemetery, and Academy, Banks County, Georgia, is eligible, in part, because of an unusual form of folk art found in northern Georgia. Early 19th century discoid markers there are believed to be made of hand-carved

rock from a nearby outcropping by an early settler who learned the craft from ancestors in the British Isles.

In the closing years of the 19th century, the arts in America achieved a high point of integration based on the ideals of Renaissance classicism. The nation's leading architects and sculptors, most notably Richard Morris Hunt, Stanford White, Daniel Chester French, and Augustus Saint-Gaudens, collaborated in the design of important civic and cemetery monuments. There are many examples of high artistic achievement in funerary monumentation of the period eligible under Criterion C in urban centers. Among the best-known

gravemarkers and monuments representing the common artistic values of a historic period. For example, the elaborate monumentation characteristic of cemeteries of the Victorian era was derived from the influence of the romantic movement in literature and art, which revered nature and sentiment. Grief and devotion could be expressed nobly in artistic terms by means of code-like imagery. Pyramid-capped mausoleums and tapering shafts on pedestals were among the popular monument forms drawn from the ancient world. Because of their association with Egyptian sepulchral monuments signifying eternal life beyond the



*The Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Newark, Essex County, New Jersey, illustrates characteristic features and attitudes toward death in the Victorian period in the profusion of attenuated, vertical forms, such as columns and obelisks, imagery expressing confidence in spiritual after-life. (Anna Sanchez, 1985)*

of these is the Adams Memorial in Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington, D.C., where Stanford White provided an architectural setting for the sublime bronze figure of transcendent peace completed by Saint-Gaudens in 1891. Historian-writer Henry Brooks Adams commissioned the monument in memory of his wife, the former Marian Hooper.

A cemetery that does not contain "high style" master works of funerary art nonetheless may be eligible under Criterion C as a distinguishable entity made up of a significant array of

earthly realm, the pyramid and obelisk became symbols for Christian belief in the eternity of the spirit. Indeed, obelisks were so widely used as gravemarkers that they, along with classical columns, account for much of the bristling quality of cemetery landscapes of the period. Some of the imagery was figural, encompassing effigies and idealized figures as well as lambs, cherubs, and other orders of angels. Among the many cemeteries listed for their notable collection of Victorian funerary art are Oakwood Cemetery, Onondaga County, New

<sup>4</sup> Refer to *National Register Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons* for additional guidance on applying Criterion B.



*The Sculptures of Dionicio Rodriguez at Memorial Park Cemetery in Memphis, Tennessee, illustrate the work of a master artist. (Tennessee Historical Commission, 1990)*

*Four of the dozens of individually designed styles found in the German-Russian Wrought Iron Cross Sites in Central North Dakota represent an Old World folk tradition, which enjoyed its greatest period of popularity in this region from the 1880s until about 1925. (Timothy J. Klobardanz, 1988)*

York; Oakland Cemetery, Fulton County, Georgia; Elmwood Cemetery, Jackson County, Missouri; and Cave Hill Cemetery, Jefferson County, Kentucky. Not surprisingly, all are significant in the area of landscape architecture as well.

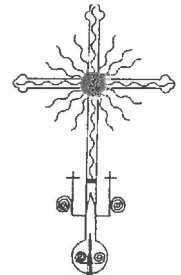
In part, the richness and variety of monuments in Victorian cemeteries was derived from the introduction of mechanized manufacturing processes. A broad range of patterns was available to monument makers in printed handbooks, a notable example of which was *Palliser's Memorials and Headstones*, published in 1851 by Palliser, Palliser, and Company, New York architects and designers. A great many markers were mass marketed through marble works and manufacturers' catalogs. Monuments of cast zinc marketed as "white bronze" were popular throughout the country after a fabrication process was developed in the 1870s. Metal gravemarkers generally were cheaper than marble and granite markers and, depending on the number and variety of casting molds used, could surpass in elaboration the carved stone monuments they emulated. City Cemetery, Washington County, Georgia, contains a significant collection of mass-produced designs. Cast iron fences, also readily available at this time, became extremely popular for fencing of both individual plots and entire cemeteries. The cast iron fences in Rapides Cemetery, Rapides Parish, Louisiana, are among the most important examples of Victorian ornamental cast iron in the State outside of New Orleans.

Less commonplace, but highly distinctive, examples of funerary art or

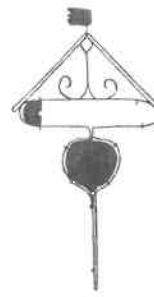
*The rural setting and these six crosses, the only objects remaining from the old Mt. Carmel settlement in Pierce County, North Dakota, are evocative of the State's early period of German-Russian immigration. (Timothy J. Klobardanz, 1988)*



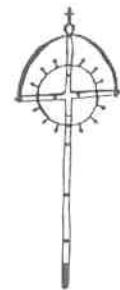
*Wrought iron cross with scrollwork*



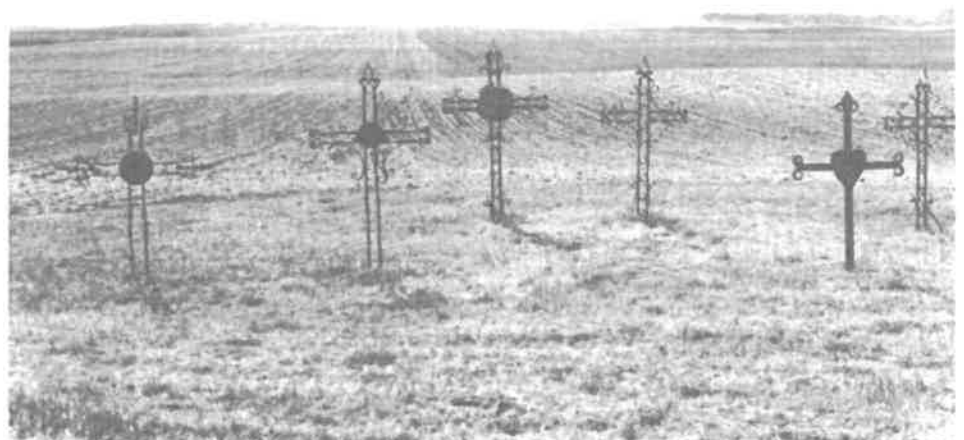
*Wrought iron cross with pattern*



*Wrought iron cross with heart*



*Wrought iron cross with circular base*



craftsmanship also may qualify for National Register listing. The Sculptures of Dionicio Rodriguez at Memorial Park Cemetery, Shelby County, Tennessee, constitute one of the finest collections of sculptures executed by this Mexican artist. His rustic works in tinted reinforced concrete imitate natural forms such as trees and stone masses. Mountain View Cemetery, Stillwater County, Montana, is known for its concentration of hand-carved sandstone tree stump and log tombstones, most believed to be the work of two local Italian carvers. In central North Dakota, German-Russian Wrought Iron Cross Sites contain a dazzling array of intricately embellished hand-crafted iron grave crosses, a long-established Old World folk tradition brought to the United States by German-Russian immigrants. The crosses, some by highly-skilled blacksmiths whose names are known, and others by unknown artisans, display a balance of cultural tradition and individual creativity.

*Criterion D: Properties may be eligible for the National Register if they have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.*

Burial places may be eligible for their potential to yield information about cultural and ethnic groups. Under Criterion D, the common requirements are that the property have information to contribute and the information is considered important. The importance of the information to be yielded usually is determined by considering a research design or a set of questions that could be resolved by controlled investigation of the site. While commonly understood to apply to archeological research, Criterion D also encompasses information important in the study of material culture and social history. Except for the graves of significant historic individuals, burial places nominated under Criterion D need not meet the special requirements of the Criteria Considerations.

Information collected on Native Americans in all parts of the country reveals a great range and variation of burial ritual. The placement and orientation of burial remains and the objects associated with burials, such as implements, vessels for food offerings and personal adornment, reveal a people's spiritual beliefs, their view of afterlife, and distinctions in social, economic, and political status. Some aspects of burials, such as the lining or

closing of graves with stones and the plugging of burial chambers with debris, indicate methods of protecting the remains. The similarity of burial practices in different regions could indicate links through trade and migration.

Present Federal, State, and local laws protecting Native American burial remains, burial goods, and sacred objects may constrain physical anthropological studies. However, where disturbance of burials is accidental or unavoidable, legally authorized scientific analysis of skeletal remains can disclose important information about environmental conditions of prehistoric times, including the prevalence of disease and trauma inflicted in combat. Sometimes these properties may be eligible without having been excavated; Hodgen's Cemetery Mound in Ohio, revealed as a burial mound by erosion, has never been excavated and was seeded to prevent further erosion; its significance is enhanced by its relatively undisturbed integrity. Also, it is not uncommon to find burying places associated with other archeological features, and such burial places may be eligible for National Register listing as part of a larger area of occupation for which testing or partial excavation has been carried out. Whether burial places are identified individually, or as part of a larger site, one should always consult representatives of any group for whom the burials or site have historic or cultural meaning, and also the State historic preservation office.

Anthropologists and historical archeologists can gain information significant in American culture from burial places. For example, West Africans carried in the slave trade to the east coast of America, and their descendants, adapted traditional burial rites to plantation and community life. Studies of African American cemeteries in the South reveal a variety of gravesite treatments based on a view of the spirit world that can be traced to the Bakongo culture of West Africa. Light-reflecting objects and personal possessions used to define and decorate graves are intended to attract and contain the spirit. The spiralled conch shell seen on graves in the coastal areas is an emblem of the eternal cycle of life and death, and inverted objects are oriented to the spirit world, which in traditional culture is a shimmering mirror of the living world beneath the earthly plane. Cemeteries having the potential to illustrate the practice of such beliefs may be eligible under Criterion D<sub>9</sub>

In cases where written documentation is not available, studies of a cemetery may reveal important information about an area. The site of Old Greenville is the location of a frontier town and county seat important in the early settlement of the Missouri Ozarks. Because a series of courthouse fires destroyed early records, information that can be obtained from cemetery features can enlighten various aspects of the area's past. Features documented as having information potential include location and grouping of graves; use and quantity of commercial markers, fieldstone, impermanent markers, or no markers; funerary art; and inscriptions indicating identity, cultural affiliation, birth and death dates, and cause of death.

## SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS

Certain types of properties, including cemeteries and graves, do not qualify for the National Register unless they meet certain special conditions. This category also includes birthplaces of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years. However, cemeteries and graves may qualify under Criteria A, B, or C if they are integral parts of larger properties that do meet the criteria, or if they meet the conditions known as Criteria Considerations. In some instances, a burial place nomination will need to be justified under more than one of the special conditions in addition to the basic criteria. Except for the graves of historical figures, burial places nominated under Criterion D are exempt from the Criteria Consideration requirements.

In the discussion below, examples that must be justified under the Criteria Considerations are those for which an explicit justification must be included in the nomination documentation. Following these are examples of properties likely to be accepted for National Register listing if the nomination documentation included an adequate explanation. Each discussion also includes at least one example of a type of cemetery or burial place that may be nominated, or included

in a larger nominated property, without the necessity of checking a Criteria Consideration blank on the form or providing a special justification in the nomination.

**Criteria Consideration A: A religious property is eligible if it derives its primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance.**

Examples of religious burial places that *must* be justified under Criteria Consideration A requirements:

- A graveyard maintained as property of a church or synagogue.
- A crypt or crypts of a historic church or synagogue.
- A cemetery containing burials of members of a religious order or group, if the religious affiliation is a major part of the cemetery's significance.

Examples of religious burial grounds that likely would meet Criteria Consideration A requirements with adequate documentation:

- A graveyard of a church or synagogue distinguished by the artistic quality of its gravemarkers or by relatively early historical associations.
- A crypt significant for its artistic embellishment or associations with a person of outstanding importance.

Example of religious burial places that *do not* need to be justified under Criteria Consideration A:

- A graveyard or cemetery that is nominated along with the church or synagogue with which it is associated when the church or synagogue is the main resource nominated.

**Criteria Consideration B: A property removed from its original or historically significant location can be eligible if it is significant primarily for architectural value or if it is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event.**

Examples of relocated burial places that *must* be justified under Criteria Consideration B requirements:

- A grave of a historic figure that has been moved from its original or earlier historic location to a place that became the focus of commemorative monumentation.

- A mausoleum, columbarium, or other building that has been relocated.

- A cemetery or section of a cemetery that became the location of reinterments of a group of historic figures.

- A graveyard or cemetery relocated in its entirety.

Examples of relocated burial places that likely would meet Criteria Consideration B requirements with adequate documentation:

- A mausoleum or other building relocated within the bounds of its historic setting without loss to its significant architectural character and without destroying the character of a historic district.

- A cemetery or section of a cemetery where a group of historic persons of outstanding importance were reinterred fifty or more years ago.

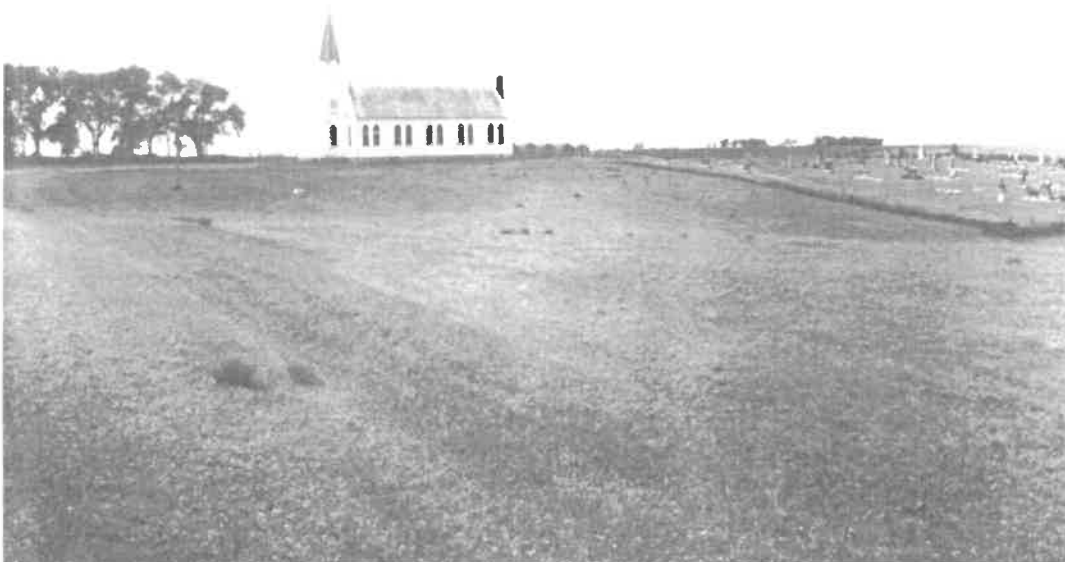
- A graveyard moved in its entirety if it represents a historic relocation and the artistic qualities and social significance of its historic gravemarkers are preserved.

- An ossuary or other burial place that represents reinterment as a traditional cultural practice.

Example of relocated burial places that *do not* need to be justified under Criteria Consideration B:

- A graveyard or cemetery in which a few reinterments have taken place; in which a small number of gravemarkers original to the grounds are missing or separated from their historic positions; or for which the age or historical associations are of overriding rarity and significance.

*As part of a church nomination, the cemetery next to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Colfax County, Nebraska, need not meet the requirements of Criteria Considerations A or D. (D. Murphy, 1980)*



**Criteria Consideration C: A birthplace or grave of a historical figure is eligible if the person is of outstanding importance and if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life.**

Historical figures of outstanding importance in local, State or national history usually are more vividly associated with the places relating to their productive lives than with their graves. Gravesites may be far removed, geographically, from the setting of the individual's momentous activities. But if residences and business or professional headquarters are not preserved, the final resting place sometimes may be significant as the most substantial link to that person. A historical figure of outstanding importance is one whose contributions to local, State or national history were truly extraordinary. The accomplishments of such a person must stand out in kind and degree from those of others active at a comparable level in the same field and during the same period of time.

Prehistoric graves do not fall under this Criteria Consideration.

Examples of graves that *must* be justified under Criteria Consideration C requirements:

- A grave nominated for its associations with the person buried there.
- The grave of a historical figure that is nominated for its potential to yield information significant in local, State or national history.

Examples of graves that likely would meet Criteria Consideration C requirements if adequately documented:

- A grave that is the only substantial intact link to a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- The grave of a historical figure nominated under Criterion D for significant information about the past that is not available from other sources.

Example of graves that *do not* need to be justified under Criteria Consideration C:

- A grave located on the grounds of the house, farm, ranch, or plantation where the outstanding historical figure spent his or her productive years, and the property is being nominated as a whole.

**Criteria Consideration D: A cemetery is eligible if it derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events.**

As collective burial places, cemeteries are the focus of many individual expressions commemorating family members and spiritual beliefs. In and of itself, this characteristic does not qualify a burial place for listing in the National Register. However, when a burying ground is of sufficient age and scope to represent more, such as patterns of early

*The St. Matthew's Church cemetery contributes to the significance of East Plymouth Historic District in Plymouth, Litchfield County, Connecticut, a community that was settled by a historically significant religious minority, and which developed as a center for surrounding farm families. (Connecticut Historical Commission, 1984)*



settlement or the values of a society generally, National Register Criteria Consideration D provides for its eligibility. Cemeteries nominated for the importance of the information they may impart may be eligible for listing without application of Criteria Consideration D.

To be considered a person of transcendent importance, an individual would have to meet the same test as that for a grave. To qualify for its age, a cemetery must date from an early period within its geographic and cultural context. The age of a burial place might be considered early relative to the period for which we have information about human activity, or relative to the exploration, settlement, and

development of an area by a particular group. As with any other type of property, a cemetery may be eligible for the quality of design represented in its funerary art, construction or engineering techniques, landscape architecture, or other values recognized under National Register Criterion C. Likewise, under Criterion A, a cemetery may possess significant associations with historic events, including general events that reflect important broad patterns in our history.

Examples of cemeteries that *must* be justified under Criteria Consideration D requirements:

- Any cemetery nominated individually under National Register Criteria A, B, or C.
- A cemetery that constitutes a substantial or pivotal portion of a historic district nominated under Criteria A, B, or C.

Examples of cemeteries that likely would meet Criteria Consideration D requirements if adequately documented:

- A historic cemetery containing the graves of a number of persons of outstanding importance — those whose activities determined the course of events in local, State, or national history; or those whose

activities were especially important in reflecting significant cultural currents of the time.

- A cemetery possessing important historic associations from a community's early period of settlement, or which reflects important aspects of community history.
- A cemetery that embodies the principles of an aesthetic movement or tradition of design and monumentation through its overall plan and landscaping, its gravemarkers and funerary sculpture, or its buildings and structures.
- A cemetery that is associated through its burials with a single important historical event such as a pivotal military battle.
- A cemetery that embodies the folkways, burial customs, or artistic traditions of an ethnic or cultural group whose impact on the community or region was significant but is not well documented in other resources.

Examples of cemeteries that *do not* need to be justified under Criteria Consideration D:

- A cemetery associated with a distinguishable cultural group that has the potential to yield important information such as migration patterns, subsistence levels, and prevalence of disease in historic or prehistoric times.
- A cemetery that is nominated along with the church or synagogue with which it is associated when the church or synagogue is the main resource nominated.
- A cemetery that is nominated as part of a historic district but is not the focal point of the district.

**Criteria Consideration E:** *A reconstructed property is eligible when it is accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived.*

Examples of reconstructed burial places that *must* be justified under Criteria Consideration E requirements:

- A burial mound or other surface burial place reconstructed largely of fabric that is not original.
- A cemetery in which a significant number of character-defining features, such as mausoleums and gravemarkers, are reconstructed of fabric that is not original.

Example of reconstructed burial places that likely would meet Criteria Consideration E requirements if adequately documented:

- A cemetery in which landscape plantings, road systems, mausoleums, and/or gravemarkers have been repaired and restored largely with original fabric in accordance with a well documented preservation plan.

**Criteria Consideration F:** *A property primarily commemorative in intent can be eligible if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance.*

Most burial places, ranging from gravemarkers and grave shelters to substantial mausoleums and cemeteries as a whole, are commemorative in intent. Unlike many commemorative properties, however, the significance of a burial place often includes direct association with events that occurred on or near the site, or with the person or persons buried there. Other burial places may be significant for their artistic quality or their capacity to evoke widely-shared emotions.

Gettysburg National Cemetery, which now contains approximately 6,000 burials from the Civil War through the Viet Nam conflict, was established as a cemetery for the Union casualties from one of the decisive battles of the Civil War. The number of killed, wounded, and captured in the fighting of July 1-3, 1863, reached 51,000 and was unsurpassed in any other engagement of the Civil War. In addition to its direct association with the battlefield, the cemetery shares significance with the adjacent battlefield because of their long history as a place where the pathos of a nation was expressed, beginning with President Abraham Lincoln's immortal address at the cemetery's dedication little more than four and half months after the battle ended.

In general, national cemeteries meet Criteria Consideration F because they have been designated by Congress as primary memorials to the country's military history. Many of these also are directly associated with the battles in which the interred lost their lives.

Examples of commemorative burial places that *must* be justified under Criteria Consideration F requirements:

- A funerary monument of a heroic or martyred figure, or a tribal or national leader, if it is the commemorative function that is of primary significance.

Example of commemorative burial places that likely would meet Criteria Consideration F requirements if adequately justified:

- A national cemetery.

Examples of commemorative burial places that *do not* need to be justified under Criteria Consideration F:

- A gravemarker or monument significant primarily for its age or its distinction as an example of craftsmanship or architecture of a historic period or school.
- A gravemarker significant primarily as a document of the traditions of an ethnic or cultural group.
- A cemetery significant chiefly because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a historic period or school of landscape design or of an important tradition of vernacular or folk design.

**Criteria Consideration G:** *A property achieving significance within the last fifty years is eligible if it is of exceptional importance.*

National cemeteries, collectively, possess inherent exceptional significance from associations with important events in our history. Because the cemeteries include the graves of military personnel associated with every war and branch of service, and draw their essential significance from the presence of the remains of those who have served their country throughout its history, the age of each cemetery is not necessarily the determining factor. To qualify, however, each cemetery must be used or prepared for the burials of veterans and their dependents, and must possess historic integrity.

Examples of burial places less than fifty years old that *must* be justified under Criteria Consideration G requirements:

- A grave that is less than fifty years old.
- A cemetery established less than fifty years ago.

- A new national cemetery or tracts of recently acquired land not yet developed for cemetery purposes, even if added to existing cemeteries.

- A mausoleum, mortuary, or crematorium that is less than fifty years old.

Examples of burial places less than fifty years old that likely would meet Criteria Consideration G requirements if adequately documented:

- A grave of a national or tribal leader that is exceptionally important because the leader's death had a galvanic effect on broad social movements and the gravesite is the focal point of reverence for the leader's achievements.

- A mausoleum, mortuary, or crematorium that is exceptionally significant as a pivotal design in the development of new technologies for care of the dead.

- A developed national cemetery that contains interments of veterans and their dependents, or one that has been clearly prepared for that purpose.

Examples of burial places less than fifty years old that *do not* need to be justified under Criteria Consideration G:

- A historic cemetery established more than fifty years ago, where the vast majority of burials, markers, and monuments are over fifty years old, but which is still active, and in which a number of burials occurred less than fifty years ago. (The period of significance in such a case would end either at the end of the cemetery's period of historical importance, or fifty years prior to the evaluation and documentation if the continuing use is perceived as significant but not exceptionally significant.)

- A cemetery significant for its plan or design which, although commenced over fifty years ago, was fully executed at a date that overlaps the most recent fifty year period by a few years.

## INTEGRITY

To qualify for National Register listing, properties must retain historic integrity. The Criteria for Evaluation recognize seven factors which define historic integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. All must be considered in determining whether a burial place retains enough of its characteristic features to represent the associations, function, and appearance it had during its period of significance. The natural

and developed landscape features that are associated with complex burial places such as cemeteries must be considered as part of the evaluation of integrity.

In essence, the researcher should ask the following questions in evaluating integrity: 1) To what degree does the burial place and its overall setting convey the most important period(s) of use? 2) To what degree have the original design and materials of construction, decoration, and landscaping been retained? 3) Has the property's potential to yield significant information in American culture been compromised by ground-disturbance or previous investigation?

To assess the completeness and condition of a burial place, it is helpful to begin by identifying the characteristic features of the type of property under study, especially those that give the property significance. For a cemetery, such features would include gravesites, gravemarkers, boundary enclosures, walkways, gateways, road systems, natural and planted vegetation, buildings, structures, and the spatial relationship among all of these. By their constant exposure, certain gravemarker materials, such as wood and marble, are especially vulnerable to natural cycles of weathering and deterioration, just as vegetation is subject to growth and decay. Damage to, or modification and loss of, characteristic features do not necessarily render a burial place ineligible. It is a question of degree. A burial place which meets National Register standards for integrity should retain enough of its significant features from its period of significance to make clear its distinction as an important representative of its physical type, or of its historic associations.

Since the 19th century, American cemeteries commonly have been planned as "eternal" resting places of the dead. Even so, occasionally they are moved, obliterated, or adapted for new uses. Frequently, they are enlarged and their landscape altered or "improved" in keeping with changing tastes. It is important, therefore, both to distinguish nonhistoric development from that which reflects the historic period(s) of significance, and also to discern which changes occurred historically and may have acquired significance, and which help maintain the significant historic appearance — landscape restoration, for example. Nevertheless, to meet National Register standards for integrity, development of the historic period should predominate. The National Register defines as "historic" those elements, qualities, and associations that are at least fifty years old.

*The Common Burying Ground & Island Cemetery in Newport County, Rhode Island, retains historic integrity. (Edwin W. Connelly, 1974)*



The amount, distribution, and kind of nonhistoric features should all be considered in evaluating integrity. In some cases, an entire cemetery may not qualify for the National Register. If the original area has remained essentially intact while modern expansion occurred beyond or around it, then the historic portion likely will qualify because it is easy to draw boundaries that exclude the nonhistoric areas. For example, Providence Cemetery is a two-acre rural cemetery located about 11 miles from the county seat, and has been used for burials from the 1840s until the present. The northeast 3/4-acre, which contains inscribed tombstones from 1840 to 1870, was nominated and listed in the National Register for its associations with the earliest period of white settlement (1830s-1870) in what is now Grenada County, Mississippi. This portion of Providence Cemetery is one of the few identifiable properties to survive from that period.

When a large historic cemetery with scattered gravesites has had modern infill, the entire cemetery still may be eligible if the proportional number, size, and scale of new features are not so imposing as to overwhelm the overall historic appearance. Once the nonhistoric features begin to dominate, and one's impression is of a modern cemetery with isolated historic burials or clusters of historic gravesites, then the overall historic character of the cemetery has been lost, and it would not meet National Register standards.

"Improvements" also can affect historic integrity. Replacing a simple post and wire fence with a brick wall, modest slate headstones with elaborate monuments, and natural growth with nursery plantings all reduce integrity, however well-intentioned. Although beautification efforts may make a cemetery more attractive, replacing the original features diminishes the cemetery's authentic historic character. Changes that occurred during the historic period, however, may reflect cultural beliefs and practices and contribute to a cemetery's significance. In order to appropriately evaluate the impact of changes, one must determine not only which features are crucial components of historic character, but also why they are important. For example, is a fence or wall important because it provides a sense of solid enclosure, or because of its materials and design, or both? The answer will help determine the physical attributes a cemetery must retain to possess historic integrity.

In some cases, age or the rarity of resources representing a person, events, or historic period, may allow a greater tolerance for change, damage, or loss of historic features. The Vermillion Creek Crossing (Pottawatomie County, Kansas) was one of the early major crossings, and a well-known campsite for travellers along the Oregon Trail. Here Louis Vieux, a Pottawatomie chief for whom the town of Louisville is named, built a cabin and operated a toll bridge, blacksmith shop, stable, and general store. In 1849, approximately 50 people died of Asiatic cholera and were buried here. Louis Vieux, who served in many important capacities for his tribe and became quite wealthy, also was buried here in 1872, along with some of his family. The crossing site and the two cemeteries are important as the only remaining signs of this once-busy crossing, and retain integrity despite some vandalism and the loss of most of the stones that once marked each of the graves of the cholera victims. In New England, at least two major campaigns to move headstones within 17th and 18th century burying grounds have resulted in the arrangement of gravemarkers in neat rows, which were not present in the original layouts: one in the mid-1800s related to the Victorian aesthetic and the introduction of the lawnmower, and one during the era of Works Progress Administration projects of the 1930s. Yet, the major legacy of these cemeteries remains, in that the early markers, with their inscriptions and funerary designs, still remain to convey their important age, associations, and information.

Removal of graves may or may not diminish historic integrity. Many Chinese who were active in the settlement and development of Hawaii and the Mainland in the late 19th century observed Confucian doctrine which called for properly placed graves in their homeland. As the burial remains of these sojourners were returned to China, whole sections of American cemeteries were disinterred. Sometimes the emptied gravesites were reused on a cyclical basis. If evidence of the historic use of a disinterred cemetery subdivision remains in the form of gravemarkers, monuments, or depressions in the ground, the subdivision need not be excluded from the nominated area on the basis of integrity if it is culturally significant. Such areas were not intended to be permanent, and removal of burials is part of the cultural story; if visible traces make it distinguishable, the subdivision's relative

position and function in the overall cemetery landscape still can be appreciated. A cemetery that has been *substantially* disinterred, and where removal of graves is not an authentic part of the cemetery's history, however, would not meet the standards of integrity, nor would most disinterred gravesites outside the cemetery setting.

Vistas external to a cemetery's grounds may have contributed to the feeling of the place in the historic period. If view corridors within the cemetery were purposely developed to incorporate broad vistas, and if the broad vistas have been eliminated or obscured by incompatible development on adjacent property, the cemetery has lost an important aspect of its character. If the grounds have remained intact internally, however, the cemetery would likely meet the essential requirement of integrity.

Isolated gravesites and small burying grounds occasionally are found in remote locations where they may have been established in the course of overland trail migration or in the aftermath of a massacre or military engagement. While it was not uncommon for survivors to have erected permanent gravemarkers in later years, the initial marking of such graves usually was ephemeral. Over time, the precise locations of many burial places of this kind have been lost. Oral tradition may be all that remains to mark the general vicinity of a gravesite. In assessing sites such as these, the standards of integrity require that the gravesite be verifiable by archeological testing or by visual traces, even if the traces are natural markers, such as a solitary stand of trees preserved in a cultivated field.

The eligibility of an isolated grave depends upon the grave's unmistakable relationship to the associated context or theme significant in local, State, or national history or culture. Few such graves would be eligible as individual sites, since they must be the only remaining property associated with a person of outstanding importance. More commonly, they would be evaluated as sites contributing to the significance of a historic district encompassing a larger cultural landscape, such as a homestead area or an intact segment of the Oregon Trail. A single gravesite or small group of graves that has been disinterred normally would not meet the standards of integrity. If a historic gravemarker remains at an empty grave, the marker could be evaluated as an object of artistic merit, but the associative significance of the grave is lost.

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# V. DOCUMENTING AND REGISTERING CEMETERIES AND BURIAL PLACES

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## GENERAL APPROACH

Determining the significance of a burial place requires a systematic investigation of the property and its historic context. Once assembled, the information is used to establish whether or not the burial place is a significant representative of its type, reflecting an important aspect of American history or prehistory.

Documentation begins with compiling information on the background of the site and its development over time. Such information would include the date the burial place was established, the period in which it was active, the circumstances under which it was established and maintained, and the cultural groups, individuals, organizations, agencies, or corporations responsible for initial and subsequent development. For a burial place with design distinction, such as a large, comprehensively designed cemetery, information should be provided about those who designed the overall landscape and its architectural features, and those who carved or fabricated individual monuments and grave markers. An analysis of components of the burial place would include identification of methods of construction and manufacturing techniques, as described in stone cutters' handbooks, fabricators' catalogs, and professional publications. Characteristic plant materials, layout of burial plots and circulation features, acreage encompassed, and the purpose or function of areas and features within the site boundaries also are important. The researcher should determine when

newer tracts were added to the site and describe the site in relation to its surrounding landscape.<sup>5</sup>

Siting of burial places normally was carefully considered in both historic and prehistoric times. Chinese workers who came to Hawaii at the turn of the century founded fraternal societies that enabled them to maintain strong cultural, political, religious, and family ties with China. One of the chief concerns of these societies was care of the elderly and disabled and burial of the dead. It was important that the

society's building and the adjacent cemetery be located in a beautiful, spacious area, on sloping ground, with a good view, so that spirits could roam freely. The Chee Ying Society, Hawaii County, Hawaii, is an example of such a society building, dependencies, and affiliated cemeteries.

Researchers should study the immediate setting; while the growth of a town, changing agricultural patterns, or other factors may have altered the surrounding landscape over time, often the basis for burial site selection is evident in local



*Cultural and environmental factors can be important in understanding cemeteries. In southern Louisiana, cemeteries such as the Metairie Cemetery in New Orleans, Orleans Parish, reflect high-style French funerary architecture. At the same time, the tradition of building burial vaults above ground was well-suited to the high water table of the delta region. (Donna Fricker, 1991)*

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<sup>5</sup> Refer to *National Register Bulletin 18: How To Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes*, and *National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes* for additional information on historic landscape issues.

landforms — in the relationship of site to topographic features or traditional routes of travel. Researchers also should consult records of land use for verification of the reason a burial place developed at a particular location, and not make assumptions. For example, in the communities of Colonial New England settled by Puritans, graveyards were perceived as secular, in conformance with Calvinist doctrine. In that region, the mere proximity of an early graveyard to a church property does not necessarily signify a historical relationship between church and burying place.

The arrangement of graves within a burial ground is a significant aspect of character also. In vernacular burial grounds, the relation of one grave to another may be irregular — not in compact rows. Such informal placement may be a sign of haphazard development over time, but it could also relate to the customs of a particular cultural group. The Christian belief in resurrection of the body after death prescribed earth burials for the faithful. Lot arrangement frequently was influenced by the scripturally-based tradition of orienting the foot of the grave toward the east to place the dead in appropriate position for arising at the day of final judgement.

The researcher should learn as much as possible about the character of the site as it was first developed or appropriated for burial purposes based on

documentary views, photographs, plats, plans and specifications, business and organization records, local histories, and oral tradition. The researcher then is prepared to describe the present condition of the site and determine how well it reflects the period in which it was developed.

The landscape and developed features of a burial place should be described in narrative form and represented graphically by means of a site plan or map. When it is known that significant historic features are missing or modified, as for example in the realignment of road or driveway, such missing features should be described and their former placement indicated graphically in dashed or dotted outline. Not all of the features listed below will appear in all burial places; however, the narrative description and site plan would include, but not necessarily be limited to the following, where applicable:

- general topography, including indication of the gradient (or slope) and elevation of the site in relation to the larger setting in which it is located;
- natural features such as streams, gullies, hills, and indigenous trees; naturalistic developed features such as ponds, lakes, or landforms;

- plat, or layout of cemetery plots, whether a rigid gridiron imposed on the site or an organization of plots conforming to natural contours;

- circulation system of roads, driveways, pathways, noting whether such features have axial alignment or are winding or curving; structural features of the system, such as bridges and drainage systems; and distinctive materials, such as cobble gutters or stone paths;

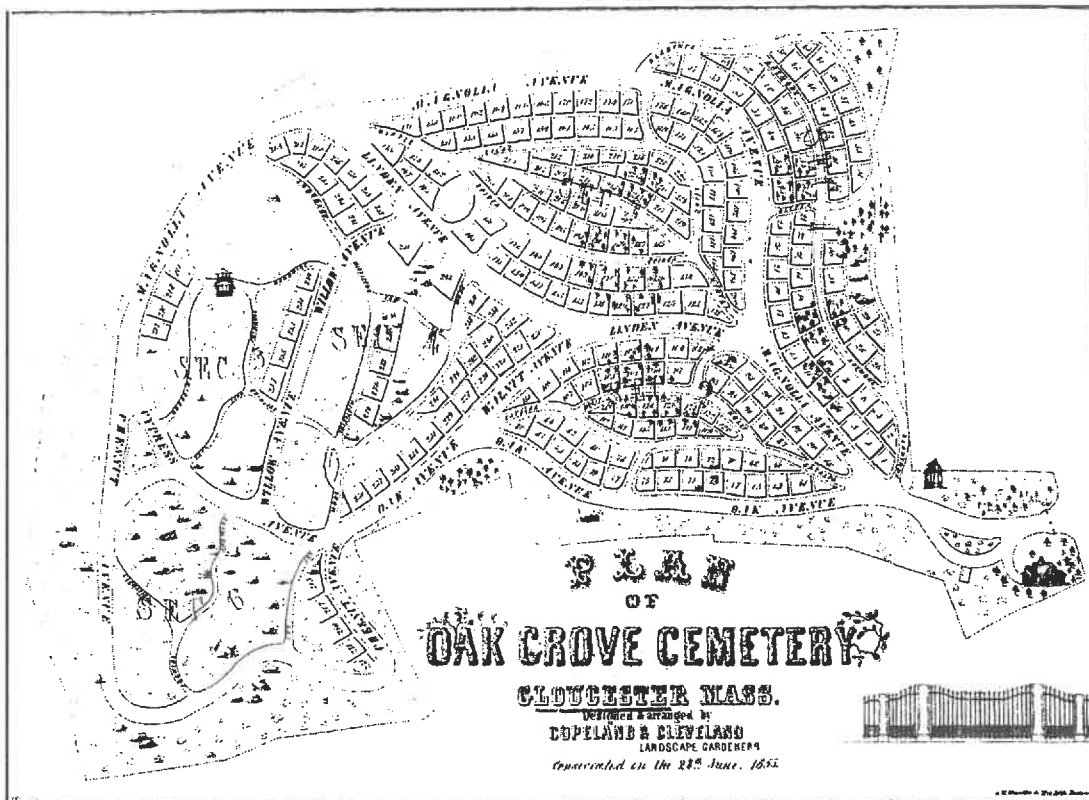
- views and vistas within the site from principal access points; views and vistas external to the site;

- characteristic vegetation, including the overstory of trees, understory of shrubs and grasses, exotic plant materials used as filler in burial plots, ornamental flower beds, and specimen plantings;

- gateways, fences, and hedges used for boundary and spatial definition;

- typical plot defining features such as wooden palings, iron fencing, and concrete curbing;

- prevalence of individual plot mausoleums, vaults, or above-surface tombs, and indication of the range and variety of individual grave markers;



*The 1855 plan of the Oak Grove Cemetery in Gloucester, Essex County, Massachusetts, is an important source of cemetery documentation. (James O'Gorman, 1975)*

- entrance signs, directional markers, outdoor lighting fixtures, and small-scale site furnishings such as benches, planters, ornamental sculpture, and fountains;

- maintenance and service features such as soil disposal and waste storage areas, greenhouses, tool sheds, and pumphouses; and

- buildings such as churches, memorial chapels, gatehouses, offices, residences, crematories, mausoleums, and columbariums.

## RESEARCH AND FIELD INVESTIGATION

The object of the research phase is twofold: 1) to establish the contexts, or historical and cultural themes for documenting the property's significance, and 2) to determine the property's physical character and appearance during the important period(s) of its use or development.

Toward the first end, general reference works on American burial customs, historical development of cemeteries and mortuary art and architecture; professional and trade journals, community histories, and ethnographic studies may be consulted to place the property in an overall cultural and historical framework.

Next, all available primary source material on the property under study should be assembled from church and municipal records, fraternal organizations, and cemetery corporations, as may be appropriate. Land records, maps and plats, census records, court documents, local histories, family and business papers, genealogies, newspapers, and other sources can provide information on settlement patterns, community development, and the lives of important people. Detailed information on the development of a particular burial place will be found in cemetery plats, architectural plans and drawings, landscape plans and planting keys, manufacturers' catalog orders, monument makers' statements of account, and gardeners' and sextons' diary

entries. Library collections may provide documentary views and descriptions in the form of prints, early photographs, newspaper accounts, and advertisements. Interviews with church sextons, cemetery superintendents, and descendants of original owners of family plots may be useful. Archeologists also will review reports and other documentation on related or comparable sites to frame appropriate research questions that could be illuminated by a burial site investigation. It also is important to consult with any cultural group with which a burial place or cemetery is affiliated or for which it has special meaning.<sup>6</sup>

The object of field work is to analyze the property's present physical character in comparison with the property's appearance during the period of significance as documented through research. Field investigation may help establish the period of significance; in any case, it produces a record of the characteristic features remaining from the period of significance, and changes through time. It establishes the present extent and integrity of the property.

## SITE PLANS

The essential aid to conducting field work is a site plan on which the distribution of physical elements is recorded graphically. A cemetery plat may be used effectively as a complement to a site plan, but it is not interchangeable. If a base map of the site is not available from the local planning agency, the cemetery plat may become the model from which to produce a sketch plan of the site. Planning base maps showing contour intervals as well as building ground plans are most useful because they portray with precision the siting of particular features on level ground and at prominent elevations. If a complex burial place underwent distinct episodes of development over a long period of use, a series of maps of comparable scale overlaying a base map may be useful in recording the evolutionary changes, either for the sake of analysis or as an exhibit to accompany the nomination. Whenever possible, all graphic information should be reduced to 8 1/2" x 11" format, or folded to that size, when submitted to the National Register.

## PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs are indispensable as records of the present condition of the burial place and its characteristic features. When compared with historic views — which are not required, but which can be helpful when available — contemporary photographs assist the researcher in gaining an understanding of the phases of surface development over time. For purposes of preparing the National Register nomination for a graveyard or cemetery, it may not be practical in every case to photograph each gravemarker. It is important, however, to provide a number of general views to illustrate the overall character of the landform and its developed features. These should be supplemented by a variety of close views of individual monuments and markers to convey the range and quality of materials and workmanship. Care should be taken to photograph gravemarkers from near surface level and at times and under conditions when the high contrast of light and shadow will give sharpness and clarity to inscriptions and sculptural relief. In addition to the form, embellishment, and position of gravemarkers in relationship to other markers, epitaphs and vital inscriptions are an important aspect of the cultural content of cemeteries. If landscape design is significant, photographs of plantings, circulation patterns, and other features may be necessary to adequately represent the site.

As a practical matter, good photographic and transcription records for a historic graveyard or cemetery are highly desirable. Such records, keyed to a plat, produce scholarly archives and preserve some information should the cemetery suffer loss as a result of theft, vandalism, or damage from natural causes. Moreover, comprehensive documentation may form the basis of a cemetery maintenance and conservation master plan. Such work is labor intensive, but genealogical societies and other volunteers may be enlisted to a duly authorized and properly supervised effort.

## ARCHEOLOGY

Archeological field work and documentation involves scientific techniques

<sup>6</sup> Refer to *National Register Bulletin 38: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties*, and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 for additional guidance.

that invariably call for qualified professional supervision. Legal clearances normally are required. Where archeological investigations have been authorized in accordance with Federal, State, and local laws; aerial infrared photography; ground-penetrating radar, and proton magnetometers are among the remote sensing techniques and devices that may be used to locate below-grade ground disturbances and gauge the density and state of preservation of burial deposits without invading the site. Dense materials, such as stone, metal, and ceramic are revealed in sharp contrast against the background of soils. Bone and other organic matter also register in these sensing techniques, to varying degrees. These techniques can be expensive.

Surface investigation to determine the extent of a burial site is most effective when combined with carefully controlled testing which allow skeletal remains to be preserved intact, and minimizes impact to the site generally. Site plans, stratigraphic profiles, scale drawings, and photographs make up the graphic record of an archeological site. They illustrate the geographic bounds of the area investigated, the depth of testing, and the concentration and relative position of the artifacts and site features. Documentation also includes a report describing the range and variety of burial objects; their age as determined by laboratory radiocarbon dating or other means, as appropriate and comparative analysis of other dated materials. The functions of the artifacts, inferred from form and placement, the identification of the cultural group that performed the burial, and architectural and associated features of the site — such as vaults, chambers, cairns, and landscaping — are essential parts of the archeological record accumulated for analysis and evaluation.

## BOUNDARIES AND PERIODS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Using the information collected from research and systematic investigation of the site, the researcher should begin to establish the scope and extent of the area to be proposed for nomination and the period of time during which the nominated area was significant in American prehistory, history, or culture. Only after determining the geographical bounds of the nominated area and that



*The traditional gravehouses, Christian crosses, and other features at LaPointe Indian Cemetery in Ashland County, Wisconsin, possess important associations with the Chippewa Indians in northern Wisconsin. (Michael M. Weburg, 1976)*

period of time in which the property achieved the qualities which make it eligible for the National Register, is it possible to enumerate the features which contribute to the significance of the property.

## OWNERSHIP

Determining ownership of burial places sometimes is complex. In some cases, family cemeteries on private land have been exempted from deeds and do not belong to the property owner on whose land they are located, but to the descendants of the family. When small private cemeteries in rural areas have been abandoned and are no longer maintained, they become the domain of the current landowner. For the volunteer group or family descendants trying to establish clear title and access to an abandoned cemetery, legal research and negotiation may be required. For documentation and assessment purposes, however, researchers may refer to deed records to establish the most likely owner. Sometimes the corporate body or trust fund that once provided care for a country cemetery, though

inactive for many years, was never legally dissolved. The rights of Indian tribes, Native Hawaiians, or other groups — as established by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, other Federal laws, and State legislation — also must be considered in determining ownership.

Typically, in early community cemeteries founded by voluntary associations, the cemetery land remained under ownership of the founding organization while the individual plots were separately held by the original proprietors and their heirs. In the West, where the earliest established community cemeteries often were founded by fraternal societies such as the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, burial grounds today are being deeded to local governments whose agencies — commonly parks and recreation departments — are looked to for stable long-term stewardship of the community's "pioneer" cemeteries. In such cases, when it comes time to complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, "public-local" or both "public-local" and "private," whichever is appropriate, should be checked.

# COMPLETING THE NATIONAL REGISTER REGISTRATION FORM

Nominations are processed according to the regulations set forth in 36 CFR 60, and are submitted to the National Park Service by the appropriate State or Federal Historic Preservation Officer. The following guidance supplements the instructions found in *National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*.

## CLASSIFICATION

A burial place may be classified as a "site," "district," "building," "structure," or "object." A single or compound burial of limited scope, such as trailside graves or small family plots, would be classified appropriately as a "site." Also, when a cemetery is nominated as a significant or "contributing" feature within a larger historic district, such as a village or company town, it is counted as a "site."

A complex burial site, such as a cemetery encompassing a multitude of burials, developed landscape features, and buildings, is a "district." Its component parts are enumerated and described, and those which contribute to the significance of the nominated area are distinguished from nonhistoric features which are unrelated to the period of significance. Individual monumental tombs may be classified as "structures," and gravemarkers having artistic merit or cultural significance may be counted as significant "objects." The overall landscape design — including roadways, ponds, and plantings — may be counted as a "site" within the district if the design is a significant feature.

Because the term "burial place" is broadly interpreted in this guidance to encompass individual buildings, such as crematory and mausoleum facilities, the category of "building" would be an appropriate classification when such buildings are nominated individually or when counting the number of contributing features in a cemetery district. Also, since a property consisting of two or more resource types should be classified under the major resource, if there is one,



*A principal contributing feature of the Masonic Cemetery in Eugene, Lane County, Oregon, is the Hope Abbey Mausoleum, which meets Criterion C as the State's only truly monumental example of the Egyptian style. (Richard Roblyer, 1980)*

a property consisting of, for example, a significant church and an associated graveyard would be nominated as a "building."

## CONTRIBUTING FEATURES

The number and combination of features counted as contributing to the significance of the property will vary according to property type and will depend on the criteria under which the burial place is proposed for nomination. It is not expected that individual gravesites or markers in a cemetery would be counted as separately contributing or noncontributing features in most cases. However, buildings, structures, and objects of substantial size and scale, and those specifically discussed in the nomination text for their importance in understanding the burial place — including gravemarkers, should be counted. Plantings and other natural features should not be counted separately, but are included as part of a counted site.

In a cemetery district, individual gravemarkers would be counted as separately contributing features in those cases where gravemarkers have been comprehensively inventoried and

evaluated and those of outstanding rank can be identified. When a cemetery is significant primarily because of the examples it contains of the distinctive work of regional stone carvers and other craftsmen, the important markers should be enumerated by an inventory and each one counted as a separately contributing feature. Others may be counted collectively as a contributing object. Taking the example of a national cemetery, markers by regulation usually do not vary; the amassed number of, say, stone crosses of uniform size spreading across the landscape is one of the distinguishing characteristics of a national cemetery. The gravemarkers in such a case may be counted in the aggregate as a single undifferentiated object contributing to the character of the nominated area.

## FUNCTIONS

The funerary functions of all contributing resources of the burial place, must be identified, and both historic and current functions classified on the form using the instructions provided in *National Register Bulletin 16A*.

## DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF FEATURES AND SIGNIFICANCE

The purpose of the narrative portions of the National Register form is twofold: 1) to describe and analyze the characteristic features of the burial place, and 2) to present a coherent argument that explains why the property meets the Criteria for Evaluation, including the Criteria Considerations for graves, cemeteries, and other kinds of properties marked for special conditions.

### Description

To prepare the descriptive narrative, the researcher needs to determine the characteristic features the burial place must have to be a good representative of its period, style or design, and method of construction or fabrication. Through systematic description, the researcher will show that the property possesses those characteristics. The features that date from the period of significance should be identified and described in Section 7 of the registration form, along with a discussion of any changes that might affect historic integrity. The completed description will provide an accurate image of the current appearance and condition of the cemetery, within which both significant historic

features and nonhistoric changes and additions can be ascertained easily. It is especially important in cases where individual features within a cemetery are not inventoried and described that the description, in conjunction with maps and photographs, provide clear information on the general topography and the distribution of developed features that give the cemetery its historic character.

Consider the original cemetery in a community settled in the period of westward expansion, 1840-1890. The researcher may expect to find that it was established by a fraternal organization, platted around the nucleus of an earlier burial plot, and situated on high ground affording good drainage above the flood plain or on marginal land unsuitable for cultivation. Moreover, the gravemarkers, whether grand or modest, would reflect the vertical density and the variegation and embellishment of material characteristic of Victorian design. A community cemetery of this era that lacked well defined plots and an array of monuments ornamented in high relief likely would not be a good representative of the type; therefore, it likely would not be individually eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. This same cemetery, however, could be a contributing site in a historic district, or it might possess significant associations with the community's historic development that would make it individually eligible under Criterion A. For example, the cemetery might be the only remaining evidence of an extremely important trading, communication, and outfitting settlement along a westward migration route. In this case, the researcher would have to reconsider what physical characteristics were important in conveying the cemetery's important historic associations.

### Significance

The first step in preparing the statement of significance is to identify the National Register criteria, considerations, and "areas of significance" in which the property should be evaluated. A cemetery could be evaluated in the areas of social history, ethnic heritage, art, architecture, landscape architecture, community planning, archeology, and

others areas. In order to understand the property within an appropriate historic context, the researcher will have consulted reference works for information on the events, trends, and technologies which influenced development of resource types included in the area proposed for nomination. Based on information gathered in the statewide historic preservation planning process, the State historic preservation office may be able to provide data for a comparative analysis so the researcher can determine the appropriate level of significance — whether the property proposed for nomination is distinctive locally or in the State or nation. Guidebooks, conference proceedings, exhibits, and exhibit catalogs also may help the researcher place the nominated property into a larger perspective.

Periods of significance also must be specified. The period of significance cannot predate the extant features that compose the burial place. For example, the period of significance for the grave of a significant person would not include that individual's lifetime, but would be the year of burial. There may be several distinct periods of significance if the burial place remained active over a long span of time. If this is the case, all periods of significance should be noted. Ordinarily, the period of significance would not extend to the most recent period of 50 years unless specially justified under Criteria Consideration G on the basis of exceptional artistic values, historical associations, or potential to yield information.

It is desirable to keep the statement of significance as concise as possible while at the same time covering adequately the property's development and use during the period of significance. Those who shaped the burial place and its setting should be identified by name, if such information is available, or by cultural affiliation, if the property is a traditional cultural site or prehistoric burial place. It is important to focus on those aspects of the property's development and use which illustrate the property's significance under National Register Criteria A, B, C, or D.

Certain burial places may have potential for designation as a National Historic Landmark. If the property appears to have national significance and has been evaluated in a national context,

the supportive argument should be presented in the nomination. Designation as a National Historic Landmark may be dependent upon the National Park Service evaluating the property in the course of a theme study. A well-documented National Register nomination for a burial place of potential National Historic Landmark quality will facilitate the property's review by National Park Service professionals.<sup>7</sup>

## BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Determining and justifying the boundaries of a burial place are important steps in completing the registration form. Boundaries should be drawn to encompass, but not to exceed, the full extent of resources which contribute to the significance of the property. External vistas from a suburban landscaped cemetery or a vernacular cemetery spectacularly sited in the countryside may be important to the overall feeling of the place. Nevertheless, boundaries should not be drawn to include scenic buffer areas or other acreage not directly related to the property's historical development. Encompassing a broad vista in the bounds of a nominated area normally is impractical. The bounds of burial sites should be based on the extent of the features associated with the burials. In some cases, site limits for archeological sites may be determined by remote sensing techniques or surface examination combined with controlled sub-surface testing.

Boundary definition is simplified when the current legal property description of a graveyard or cemetery is the same as the property's historic boundaries. However, if portions of the burial place under investigation have been irreversibly altered or eroded, it may be necessary to deviate from the current legal description in drawing the boundary in order to exclude areas which are plainly lacking in integrity and no longer contribute to the significance of the property. Similarly, large tracts of fallow acreage known as "reserve ground" within the bounds of a cemetery plat should not be included in the nominated area unless they contain development such as road systems or service buildings relating to the historic period. In any

<sup>7</sup> Further information concerning the National Historic Landmark Program may be obtained by writing to the Chief Historian, Ifistory Division, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013—7127.

case, the boundary must be justified in a short narrative statement which explains why the boundaries were selected.

The delineation of boundaries may be documented in various ways. If appropriate, the current legal property description may be used. Where historic and current boundaries differ, the documentation may describe the area to be included from point to point, such as "from the northeast intersection of Rte. 5 and Cemetery Drive, north approximately 200 feet, . . . , then west fifty feet to the point of beginning." Although a fence may be located along the boundary, it should not be cited as defining the boundary because it may not be permanent. Features that are permanent, such as contour lines may be used to define boundaries when they constitute appropriate edges. Site plans, also called "sketch maps," may be used to indicate boundaries, if the map includes a scale indicator. For some large areas without obvious features to cite as edges, such as a rural site or a large cemetery, UTM points may define the boundaries, if the lines connecting the cited UTM points constitute the actual boundary lines of the area nominated.

Under the authorization of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, the National Park Service will restrict information on the location or character of a historic resource if revealing this information would expose the property to vandalism, destruction, or other harm. The information must be included on the National Register Registration Form, but checking the "Not for Publication" box on the form ensures that sensitive information will not be reproduced or distributed.<sup>8</sup>

## MAPS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Each registration form must be accompanied by a United States Geological Survey (USGS) map with marked Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) reference points for the purposes of locating the property geographically and illustrating its position in relation to prominent topographic features. In addition, for complex burial sites and cemetery districts, the nomination should include at least one site plan



*Photographs should capture the essence of a cemetery's character. The Laurel Grove - North Cemetery in Savannah, Chatham County, Georgia, is significant, in part, for its large number of Victorian statues and monuments. (James R. Lockhart, 1982)*

(sketch map). The site plan should locate the bounds of the property; give contour intervals, if relevant; and show the placement of major features, including nonconforming, nonhistoric development. Each feature identified as contributing or noncontributing in the form should be numbered on the site plan to correspond to a numbered inventory in the narrative discussion. Although, as stated above, it is not necessary to count and describe every gravemarker and other feature, all those specifically identified and counted must be shown on the map accompanying the nomination, either individually or collectively by area.

Copies of historic plats and building plans, if they are available, are helpful in documenting the original design intent and the integrity of some burial place property types.

A number of unmounted black and white photographs of high quality must accompany each nomination. There is no requisite number of photographs to be submitted. Requirements are that there should be as many photographs as necessary to depict the property clearly. Representative views of all characteristic features, as well as altered features and development outside the period of significance, should be included. Each photograph must identify the photographer, date, subject, and direction of the view. Prints of historic photographs are recommended as a means of documenting the integrity of the property. Photographs should be keyed to the inventory of contributing features in the narrative discussion, where appropriate. Numbered directional arrows may be placed on the site plan to indicate the direction of views shown in the photographs.

<sup>8</sup> Refer to *National Register Bulletin 29: Guidelines for Restricting Information about Historic and Prehistoric Resources* for additional information.

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# VI. CONCLUSION

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Discussion of burial practices in this bulletin is general rather than comprehensive in scope. Its purpose is to suggest the broad range of burial places from various periods that hold potential for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In selecting examples for sake of illustration, it was not possible to touch on all regions of the

United States and its associated territories, nor all cultural groups and traditions. No value judgement is implied in these omissions. Neither should it be inferred that there is greater value in the high style cemetery than in vernacular examples. Users of this guidance should be encouraged that the criteria for evaluating significance and integrity

are applicable equally to urban graveyards, folk cemeteries, and small burial grounds in a rural setting. Above all, those wishing to pursue the registration process should know from this guidance that their efforts will be supported by ample precedent, a growing volume of reference literature, and organizations ready to assist.

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# VII. GLOSSARY

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**Altar tomb** — A solid, rectangular, raised tomb or gravemarker resembling ceremonial altars of classical antiquity and Judeo-Christian ritual.

**Bevel marker** — A rectangular gravemarker, set low to the ground, having straight sides and uppermost, inscribed surface raked at a low angle.

**Burial ground** — Also "burying ground;" same as "graveyard" (see below).

**Burial cache** — A place of concealment for burial remains and objects.

**Burial mound** — A mass of earth, and sometimes stone or timber, erected to protect burial chambers for the dead.

**Burial site** — A place for disposal of burial remains, including various forms of encasement and platform burials that are not excavated in the ground or enclosed by mounded earth.

**Cairn** — A mound of stones marking a burial place.

**Cemetery** — An area set aside for burial of the dead; in Latin American culture known as "campo santo," or holy field.

**Cenotaph** — A monument, usually of imposing scale, erected to commemorate one whose burial remains are at a separate location; literally "empty tomb."

**Chapel** — A place of worship or meditation in a cemetery or mausoleum, either a freestanding building or a room set apart for commemorative services.

**Chest marker** — A solid, rectangular, raised gravemarker resembling a chest or box-like sarcophagus.

**Cinerary urn** — A receptacle for cremation remains, or ashes, in the shape of a vase.

**Columbarium** — A vault or structure for storage of cinerary urns.

**Crematorium** — A furnace for incineration of the dead; also crematory.

**Cremation area** — An area where ashes of the cremated dead are scattered or contained.

**Crypt** — An enclosure for a casket in a mausoleum or underground chamber, as beneath a church.

**Epitaph** — An inscription on a gravemarker identifying and/or commemorating the dead.

**Exedra** — A permanent open air masonry bench with high back, usually semicircular in plan, patterned after the porches or alcoves of classical antiquity where philosophical discussions were held; in cemeteries, used as an element of landscape design and as a type of tomb monument.

**Family cemetery** — A small, private burial place for members of the immediate or extended family; typically found in rural areas, and often, but not always, near a residence; different from a family plot, which is an area reserved for family members within a larger cemetery.

**Flush marker** — A flat, rectangular gravemarker set flush with the lawn or surface of the ground.

**Gatehouse** — A building at the main entrance to a cemetery that is controlled by a gate; a shelter or habitation for the gate keeper.

**Grave** — A place or receptacle for burial.

**Gravemarker** — A sign or marker of a burial place, variously inscribed and decorated in commemoration of the dead.

**Graveyard** — An area set aside for burial of the dead; a common burying ground of a church or community.

**Grave shelter** — A rectangular, roofed structure usually of wood, covering a gravesite, enclosed by boards or slats or supported by poles; in tribal custom used to contain burial offerings and shelter the spirit of the dead; also grave house.

**Headstone** — An upright stone marker placed at the head of the deceased; usually inscribed with demographic information, epitaphs, or both; sometimes decorated with a carved motif.

**Interment** — A burial; the act of committing the dead to a grave.

**Ledger** — A large rectangular gravemarker usually of stone, set parallel with the ground to cover the grave opening or grave surface.

**Lych gate** — Traditionally, a roofed gateway to a church graveyard under which a funeral casket was placed before burial; also lich gate; commonly, an ornamental cemetery gateway.

**Mausoleum** — A monumental building or structure for burial of the dead above ground; a "community" mausoleum is one that accommodates a great number of burials.

**Memorial park** — A cemetery of the 20th century cared for in perpetuity by a business or nonprofit corporation; generally characterized by open expanses of greensward with either flush or other regulated gravemarkers; in the last half of the 19th century, those with flush markers were called "lawn" cemeteries.

**Military cemetery** — A burial ground established for war casualties, veterans, and eligible dependents. Those established by the Federal government include national cemeteries, post cemeteries, soldiers' lots, Confederate and Union plots, and American cemeteries in foreign countries. Many States also have established cemeteries for veterans.

**Monument** — A structure or substantial gravemarker erected as a memorial at a place of burial.

**Monolith** — A large, vertical stone gravemarker having no base or cap.

**Mortuary** — A place for preparation of the dead prior to burial or cremation.

**National cemetery** — One of 130 burial grounds established by the Congress of the United States since 1862 for interment of armed forces servicemen and women whose last service ended honorably. Presently, the Department of Veterans Affairs maintains 114, the National Park Service (Department of the Interior) administers 14, and the Department of the Army has responsibility for two.

**Obelisk** — A four-sided, tapering shaft having a pyramidal point; a gravemarker type popularized by romantic taste for classical imagery.

**Ossuary** — A receptacle for the bones of the dead.

**Peristyle** — A colonnade surrounding the exterior of a building, such as a mausoleum, or a range of columns supporting an entablature (a beam) that stands free to define an outdoor alcove or open space.

**Pet cemetery** — An area set aside for burial of cherished animals.

**Potter's field** — A place for the burial of indigent or anonymous persons. The term comes from a Biblical reference: Matthew 27.7.

**Receiving tomb** — A vault where the dead may be held until a final burial place is prepared; also receiving vault.

**Rostrum** — A permanent open air masonry stage used for memorial services in cemeteries of the modern period, patterned after the platform for public orators used in ancient Rome.

**"Rural" cemetery** — A burial place characterized by spacious landscaped grounds and romantic commemorative monuments established in a rural setting in the period of the young republic and at the dawn of the Victoria era; so called for the movement inspired by the American model, Mount Auburn Cemetery (1831) in the environs of Boston; a cemetery developed in this tradition. The term is used with quotation marks throughout the guidance to distinguish this distinctive landscaped type from other kinds of burying grounds occurring in the countryside.

**Sarcophagus** — A stone coffin or monumental chamber for a casket.

**Screen memorial** — A vertically-set gravemarker consisting of a tablet with wing elements resting on a continuous base.

**Sepulcher** — A burial vault or crypt.

**Sexton** — Traditionally, a digger of graves and supervisor of burials in the churchyard; commonly, a cemetery superintendent.

**Shelter house** — A pavilion or roofed structure, frequently open at the sides, containing seats or benches for the convenience of those seeking a place to rest; erected in rustic and classical styles to beautify a cemetery landscape.

**Slant marker** — A rectangular gravemarker having straight sides and inscribed surface raked at an acute angle.

**Stele** — An upright stone or commemorative slab, commonly inscribed or embellished on one of the broader vertical surfaces; a gravemarker type revived from classical antiquity.

**Table marker** — A rectangular grave covering consisting of a horizontal stone slab raised on legs, which sometimes are highly elaborate; also "table stone."

**Tablet** — A rectangular gravemarker set at a right angle to the ground, having inscriptions, raised lettering or carved decoration predominantly on vertical planes, and top surface finished in straight, pedimented, round, oval, or serpentine fashion.

**Tomb** — A burial place for the dead.

**Tomb recess** — A niche or hollow in a wall that shelters a tomb.

**Tumulus** — A mound of earth protecting a tomb chamber; in the ancient world, important tumuli were encircled by drum-like constructions of stone.

**Vault** — A burial chamber, commonly underground.

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# VIII. SOME RECOMMENDED SOURCES

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Cemetery researchers will be aided by innumerable regional studies, cemetery guidebooks, conference proceedings, exhibit catalogs, and even a growing body of videotaped material. Current publications of the cemetery and monuments industries also can be helpful. *American Cemetery, Stone in America*, and *MB News* (trade journal of the Monument Builders of North America), for example, frequently contain articles on historic cemeteries and the manufacture of traditional gravemarkers.

Bibliographic searches in the local library are recommended, as is consultation with State cemetery associations, genealogical societies, and the State historic preservation office. Many States have published guides to research and legislation affecting cemeteries and burial places. An extensive bibliography for the general study of cemeteries and gravemarkers compiled along disciplinary lines is found in *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers: Voices of American Culture*, edited by Richard E. Meyer, one of the recommended sources listed below.

The Association for Gravestone Studies (AGS), a non-profit organization, publishes an annual journal, *Markers*, as well as a quarterly newsletter, and serves as an information network for cemetery scholars and preservationists nationwide. AGS maintains an archive and a limited mail-order lending library service for members. AGS can be reached at the following address: 30 Elm Street, Worcester MA 01609.

In 1985 the City of Boston, steward of as many as 16 historic cemeteries ranging in date from 1630 to 1841, launched its "Historic Burying Ground Initiative," an ambitious, long-term program encompassing comprehensive inventories and treatment of gravemarkers, landscape rehabilitation, and improved maintenance and security procedures. The Boston initiative involves a number of city

agencies and community groups and is believed to be the largest cemetery recordation and restoration project undertaken by local government in the country. Further information may be obtained from the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, 1010 Massachusetts Ave., Boston MA 02118.

The following is a list of some of the sources available, and is designed to lead the researcher to more sources. Many of these works contain extensive bibliographies.

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## NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETINS

National Register bulletins may be obtained by writing to the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127.

No. 15 *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*

No. 16A *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*

No. 16B *How to Complete the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form*

No. 18 *How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes*

No. 22 *Guidelines for Evaluating and Nominating Properties that have Achieved Significance Within the Last Fifty Years*

No. 24 *Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning*

No. 29 *Guidelines for Restricting Information about Historic and Prehistoric Resources*

No. 30 *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*

No. 32 *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons*

No. 36 *Evaluating and Registering Historic Archeological Sites and Districts (in draft)*

No. 38 *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties*

No. 39 *Researching a Historic Property*

No. 40 *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating, and Registering America's Historic Battlefields*

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# IX. NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

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The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS

Ordinarily, cemeteries, birthplaces or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the last fifty years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- a. a religious property deriving significance from architectural or historical importance; or
- b. a building or structure removed from its original location, but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a particular person or event; or

c. a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his productive life; or

d. a cemetery that derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or

e. a reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or

f. a property commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance; or

g. a property achieving significance within the past fifty years if it is of exceptional importance.

**Matt Asselmeier**

---

**From:** Edith Farnsworth House <farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 17, 2025 9:18 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Three Ways You Can Support Farnsworth!

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## Three Ways You Can Support Farnsworth

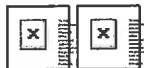
**Donate to the  
Spring Appeal**

**Modernist Homes  
Tour Tickets**

**Fall Fundraiser  
Committee**



**Donate Today!**



Edith Farnsworth House | 14520 River Rd | Plano, IL 60545 US

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**Matt Asselmeier**

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**From:** Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. <webinars@wje.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 20, 2025 8:07 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]You're Invited to a WJE Webinar

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**YOU'RE INVITED**

## **An Integrated Approach to Repairs and Maintenance in the Process Industry**



Maintaining the integrity of both mechanical assets and civil infrastructure is critical in the process industries. Often the primary concern for industry operators is the

performance of their mechanical systems, while maintenance of the underlying civil infrastructure is deprioritized. By utilizing a comprehensive assessment and repair approach which integrates operational concerns, mechanical maintenance, structural integrity, and desired service life, a more holistic repair approach can be developed to address both typical and atypical distress.

In this complimentary one-hour webinar, structural engineer **Katelyn Low** and mechanical engineer **Scott Bouse** will discuss common causes of deterioration in process industry assets and the advantages of multidisciplinary assessment and repair approaches. Through case studies, they'll address typical challenges with repairs and strategies to extend the service life of your assets.

By the end of the webinar, you will be able to:

- Identify common causes of deterioration in process industry structures
- Explain how assessments can limit operational challenges with repairs
- Describe the challenges associated with structural repairs to large mechanical components
- Summarize repair approaches that are both effective and cost-conscious

There will be plenty of time for your questions during the presentation. Attendees are eligible for one American Institute of Architects (AIA) HSW Learning Unit.

## DETAILS

**Thursday, June 5, 2025**

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

**REGISTER**

## ABOUT WJE

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE), is a global firm of engineers, architects, and materials scientists committed to helping clients solve, repair, and avoid problems in the built world.

- **Learn about WJE Services**
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**From:** Edith Farnsworth House <farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 31, 2025 9:24 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Support Our Landscape Restoration Efforts Today!

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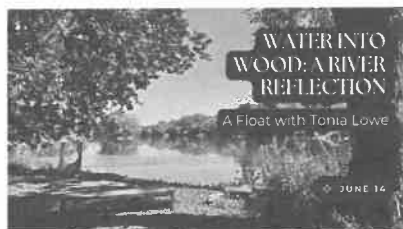


## Quarterly News & Updates

Summer | 2025

### Visit Farnsworth & Float the Fox River

This summer, three special tours pair a visit to Farnsworth with a float on the Fox River.



The first, on June 14, features Tonia Lowe—daughter of artist Truman Lowe—in a conversation about her father's legacy and the current exhibition *Movement: Water Into Wood - the Art of Truman Lowe*.

[Register Here](#)



### Summer at Farnsworth is here!

We've got a full season of events that bring together art, music, and the beauty of the landscape.

Don't miss the Watercolor Workshop with artist Sarah McRae—explore the exhibition *Movement: Water Into Wood* and create art inspired by the surrounding nature.

## Looking for a unique Father's Day gift?

Our museum shop has just the thing—find the perfect hat, shirt, or book for the design-loving dads in your life. Thoughtful, timeless, and distinctly Farnsworth.

Shop in person or online today!

**Museum Store**



Then, settle in for Live Beats & Breezy Bites, our jazz concert on the lawn featuring Hans Luchs and his quartet. Bring a blanket and picnic basket, or grab a bite from Two Partners Café, and enjoy an evening of music under the open sky.

Explore the full summer schedule and make your plans now!

**Upcoming Events**

## Revitalizing the Farnsworth Landscape: A Journey of Rehabilitation



When the Palumbo family's visits to Farnsworth House became less frequent in the late 1990s, the surrounding landscape suffered from a lack of maintenance. By the time the National Trust and Landmarks Illinois acquired the site in 2003, invasive species like Asian honeysuckle and European buckthorn had taken hold in the non-mown areas, while lawn maintenance and tree care continued.



### A Collaborative Effort: Early Rehabilitation & Volunteer Power

The significant undertaking of restoring the landscape began with dedicated volunteer projects. In 2018-19, the Illinois Arborist Association, Yorkville Scouts, and area 4-H clubs tirelessly removed dead trees and invasive brush along the Fox River. Two volunteer work days by the Illinois Arborist Association continued this crucial volunteer work into early 2020.

Amidst the challenges of 2020-21, a USDA Forest Service grant, administered by The Morton Arboretum, enabled Pizzo Associates to clear a 10-acre area between the Visitor Center and the house. This was followed by native plant installation by the



Student Leadership Initiative Program (SLIP) of the Kendall County Outdoor Education Center. The Conservation Foundation has also organized vital volunteer work days in both 2023 and 2025, further supporting these efforts.

### **Strategic Planning & Generous Support: The Path Forward**

In 2022, a privately-funded Cultural Landscape Report by Julia Bachrach Consulting and Teska Associates provided a comprehensive understanding of the site. This was followed in 2023 by a Cultural Landscape Rehabilitation Plan for the house area, skillfully prepared by landscape architect Darrel Morrison.



A significant grant from the G. Carl Ball Family Foundation allowed for extensive clearing, pruning, and the installation of native shrubs and seeding throughout 2024. This vital work, carried out by Family Landscaping & Treeworks, Inc. and Alluvium Landscapes, LLC, will continue in 2025 with additional native seeding and perennials. Adding to these improvements, the historic orchard east of the house was thoughtfully replanted with flowering crabapples, generously donated by Hinsdale Nursery and planted by Hursthouse.



### **Enhancing the Visitor Experience**

This spring, our woodchip trails have been refreshed and extended by Family Landscaping & Treeworks, making for more enjoyable exploration. At the Visitor Center, a new woodchip area complete with picnic tables and a trash/recycling receptacle has been installed, providing a welcoming space for school and tour groups.



### **A Heartfelt Thank You!**

Our deepest gratitude goes to the G. Carl Ball Family Foundation and our invaluable in-kind sponsors: Hinsdale Nursery, Hursthouse Landscape Architects & Contractors, and Maglin Site Furniture, for their generous donations of goods and services.



Crucially, we also extend a huge thank you to all of YOU who have donated to our Landscape Fund through the DONATE tab on our website! Your contributions are vital to these ongoing restoration efforts.

Interested in supporting a specific landscape project? Please **contact us** to learn more about funding opportunities and help us continue this essential work!



**Support Farnsworth**



## **Save the Date! Saturday, October 11**

Experience the magic of autumn at the Edith Farnsworth House during our *Roots & Reflections* fall dinner – a celebration of local flavors and community spirit. Enjoy a delightful farm-to-table meal with local beverages, cozy up by the fire pits, and participate in our silent auction to support the historic site.

Interested in sponsoring the event? Email us!



Edith Farnsworth House | 14520 River Rd | Plano, IL 60545 US

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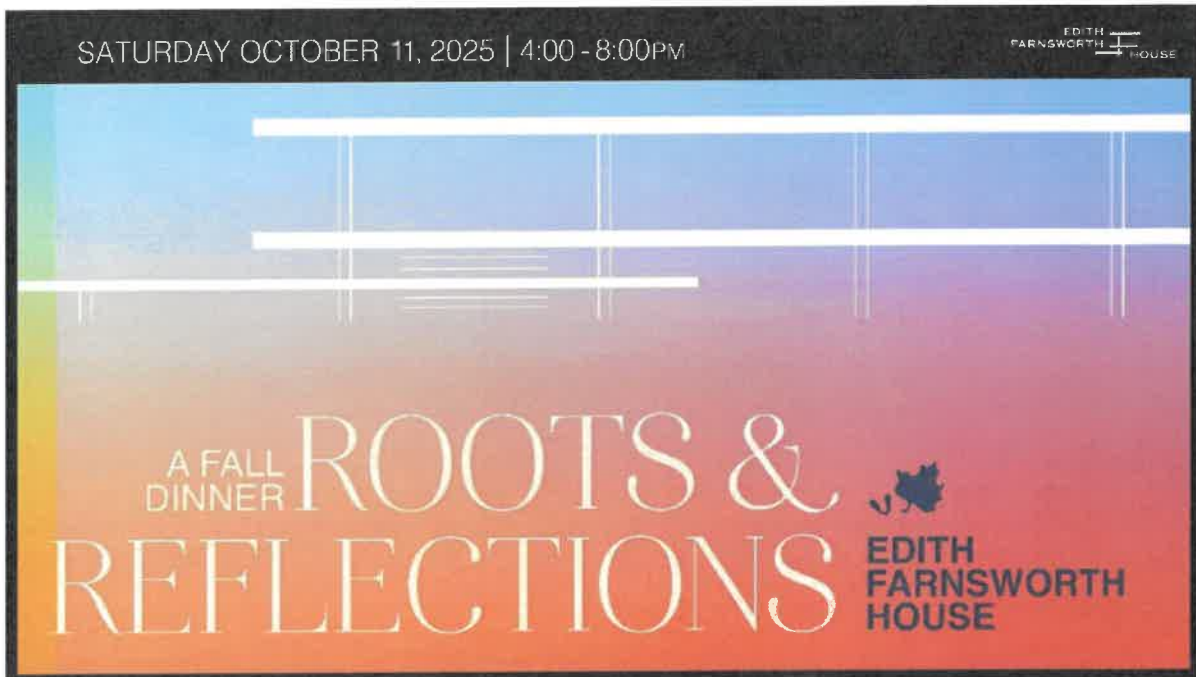


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## Matt Asselmeier

**From:** Edith Farnsworth House <farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 4:38 PM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Join Us for a Magical Fall Evening!

**CAUTION** - This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Celebrate the beauty of fall with an unforgettable evening at the Edith Farnsworth House. Our Roots & Reflections fall dinner is a seasonal gathering that brings together local flavors, community spirit, and a shared love for history and design.

Set against the backdrop of nature's autumn palette and the timeless glass house, the evening will include:

- A curated farm-to-table dinner crafted with locally sourced ingredients
- Beverages from regional brewers and wineries
- Cozy fire pits for mingling and relaxing under the stars
- A thoughtfully curated silent auction

All proceeds from this event support the ongoing preservation and interpretation of the internationally renowned Edith Farnsworth House, a modernist landmark admired around the world.

**Sponsorship Opportunities Available**

We are currently seeking sponsors to help make this special evening possible. To learn more about supporting the event, please [contact us](#).



### **Roots & Reflections**

**Tickets:** \$200

**Date:** Saturday, October 11

**Time:** 4–8pm

**Location:** 14520 River Road, Plano IL

[More Information](#)

🍁 Make a Weekend of It at Farnsworth! 🍁

Plan an autumn escape in the Plano area and enjoy a full weekend of art, architecture, and seasonal celebration. After our Roots & Reflections fall dinner on Saturday, stay the night and return for the Farnsworth Fall Festival on Sunday, October 12, from 12–5 PM.

Enjoy live music, local food and drink, family-friendly activities, and access to the historic house and grounds—all in peak fall color.

Hotel packages will be available to make your stay even easier.

Stay tuned for full details and ticket info!

CONNECT WITH US!



Edith Farnsworth House | 14520 River Rd | Plano, IL 60545 US

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## Matt Asselmeier

**From:** Edith Farnsworth House <farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 27, 2025 3:52 PM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Support Edith Farnsworth House by June 30!

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**Help Us Close Our Fiscal Year Strong  
Support Edith Farnsworth House by June 30**

**Support Farnsworth**

**Summer Events**

**Fall Dinner**

Dear Friends,

As we approach the end of our fiscal year on June 30, we're reflecting on a season of progress, creativity, and connection at Edith Farnsworth House—and we're incredibly grateful to the global community that makes it all possible.

Whether you've walked the grounds in person, engaged with us online, or simply share a passion for modern architecture, design, and preservation, you are an essential part of our story.

This glass house on the river isn't just a landmark—it's a living idea. It's where architecture sparks dialogue, where art and nature intersect, and where history is both preserved and reimagined for future generations.

Your support ensures we can continue to:

- Care for our historic site—including 60 acres of native landscape and the house.
- Host exhibitions and programs that connect architecture to broader cultural conversations.
- Inspire learners of all ages through educational experiences rooted in design, place, and history.

Every gift—large or small—helps sustain our mission and bring this extraordinary site to life. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation before June 30 to support our work into the coming year.

Together, we're not just preserving a modernist masterpiece—we're keeping its story alive for the future.

Warmest regards,

Scott Mehaffey  
Executive Director  
Edith Farnsworth House



**Donate Today!**



EDITH  
FARNSWORTH  HOUSE

# LIVE BEATS & BREEZY BITES

JAZZ ON THE LAWN

Featuring Hans Luchs  
& Quartet

JULY 26, 2025  
2-3 PM HOUSE OPEN  
4 PM CONCERT

Tickets: [www.edithfarnsworthhouse.org](http://www.edithfarnsworthhouse.org)

**\$10 OFF**

Be sure to enter code  
**EFH10** at checkout to save!

**Join us for our annual  
concert on the lawn and  
take \$10 off the purchase  
of Adult tickets.**

**BUY NOW**



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**From:** Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. <webinars@wje.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 1, 2025 8:11 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]You're Invited to a WJE Webinar

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## YOU'RE INVITED

# Mitigating Problems and Improving Durability in Water and Wastewater Infrastructure



Water and wastewater infrastructure are routinely subjected to harsh environments and susceptible to premature deterioration or failure of structural elements. However, with proper design and construction, new structures can reach their desired service life without the need for significant repair or rehabilitation. With effective mitigation strategies, existing structures where leakage or corrosion has initiated can be repaired and protected against further deterioration.

In this complimentary one-hour webinar, structural engineers **Stephen Foster** and **Terry McGovern** will explore common distress mechanisms and mitigation strategies for improving durability in water-retaining assets. Project examples will be used to illustrate different design and protection solutions and how these approaches are used to prevent or repair structural distress.

By the end of the webinar, you will be able to:

- List common distress mechanisms for concrete water and wastewater structures
- Identify actions that can improve durability of concrete water and wastewater structures

- Describe common pitfalls to avoid in the design and construction of concrete water and wastewater structures
- Compare different strategies for repairing concrete water and wastewater structures exhibiting distress

There will be plenty of time for your questions during the presentation. Attendees are eligible for one American Institute of Architects (AIA) HSW Learning Unit.

## DETAILS

**Wednesday, July 16, 2025**

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

**REGISTER**

## ABOUT WJE

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE), is a global firm of engineers, architects, and materials scientists committed to helping clients solve, repair, and avoid problems in the built world.

- **Learn about WJE Services**
- **Explore WJE Projects**
- **Contact WJE**



Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. | 330 Pfingsten Road | Northbrook, IL 60062 US

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## Matt Asselmeier

**From:** Edith Farnsworth House <farnsworthhouse@savingplaces.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 8, 2025 4:55 PM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]Your Summer, Curated at Farnsworth

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## Your Summer, Curated at Farnsworth



### Nature, Culture, & Canoes

July 12 or August 9 | 8:30 am

[Tickets](#)

While canoeing the Fox River, discover the natural beauty that captivated Dr. Edith Farnsworth and influenced Mies van der Rohe's design. This tour offers a unique blend of outdoor adventure and cultural appreciation.



### Farnsworth X Two Brothers Roundhouse Tour

July 19 or August 23 | 10:15 am

[Tickets](#)

Experience a unique summer outing that blends modernist design with craft spirits! Your ticket includes: transportation from Aurora Metra (10:15 AM), a 90-minute tour of Edith Farnsworth House (11:00 AM), and a distillery tour and tasting at Two Brothers Roundhouse (2:00 PM).



### Live Beats & Breezy Bites

July 26 | 2-3 pm house open, 4 pm concert

[Tickets](#)

Join us for a relaxed summer gathering on the lawn, featuring a live performance by acclaimed guitarist Hans Luchs and a jazz quartet. Enjoy delicious tacos and beverages from Two Partners Café (available for purchase), or bring your own picnic basket and take in the stunning setting of the glass house at golden hour. Use the code **EFH10** for \$10 off adult tickets.



### \$5 Grounds Pass First Saturdays

August 2 | 10 am

Tickets

Enjoy our stunning natural environment with \$5 Exterior View passes on the first Saturday of each month (through November). Inspired by National Play Outside Day, discover self-guided nature walks, birding, sketching, picnics, and more on our 60-acre grounds.



### Moonlight & Mies

August 9 | 7:30 pm

Tickets

Discover Farnsworth House in a new light during our special Moonlight Tours, back by popular demand! These exclusive tours will start at dusk and return after dark, lasting approximately 90 minutes.



### Curatorial Tour with Patricia Norby

August 16 | 4 pm

Tickets

Join us in welcoming Patricia Norby, Inaugural Curator of Native American Art at The Met and former student of Truman Lowe, for a special curatorial tour of *Movement: Water into Wood*. Guests will enjoy an exhibition walkthrough with Norby, followed by a discussion inside the Edith Farnsworth House.



### Roots & Reflections

October 11 | 4 pm

Sponsor

Experience the magic of autumn at Farnsworth House during our Roots & Reflections fall dinner – a celebration of local flavors and community spirit. We are looking for events sponsors and silent auction donors. [Email](#) to get more information.



### Can't make it to Farnsworth?

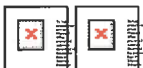
You can still be part of our work by making a 100% tax-deductible donation to support our mission. Thank you for helping us preserve and share the Edith Farnsworth House with current and future generations.

[Donate](#)

### Now on View: *Movement: Water Into Wood*

Explore the legacy of renowned Ho-Chunk artist Truman Lowe in a powerful exhibition at the Edith Farnsworth House and Barnsworth Gallery (included with all tour tickets and on-site events).

Known for his deep connection to nature and mastery of natural materials, Lowe often explored the idea of trees as vessels—giving shape to water through wood. *Movement: Water into Wood* reflects Lowe's heritage, his lifelong relationship with canoeing, and his spirit—always in motion, even “when he's not on earth or in air.”



Edith Farnsworth House | 14520 River Rd | Plano, IL 60545 US

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## Matt Asselmeier

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**From:** Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. <webinars@wje.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 17, 2025 8:07 AM  
**To:** Matt Asselmeier  
**Subject:** [External]You're Invited to a WJE Webinar

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### YOU'RE INVITED

# Keeping the Lights On: Managing Large Power Generation Assets



Power generation requires reliably operable equipment and a savvy producer keeping an eye on the health of their assets. For structural assets, maintenance and repairs are infrequent but financially and operationally expensive. Accurate and proactive assessment can provide significant advantages for planning effective maintenance strategies before they become emergent problems. Can you be confident that your structural assessments are recovering the right information to prevent that unwelcome outage surprise?

In this complimentary one-hour webinar, structural engineers **Matt Gries** and **Robert Kuykendall** will discuss these and other concerns, aiming to equip you with insights that will help reduce outage uncertainty and enhance the reliability of your equipment.

By the end of the webinar, you will be able to:

- Identify challenges associated with assessing power generation structural assets
- Summarize common deterioration mechanisms affecting reinforced concrete structures
- Compare differences between commonly deployed assessment methodologies

- Explore the relative impacts of proactive assessment programs

There will be plenty of time for your questions during the presentation. Attendees are eligible for one American Institute of Architects (AIA) HSW Learning Unit.

## DETAILS

**Wednesday, July 30, 2025**

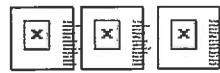
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

**REGISTER**

### ABOUT WJE

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE), is a global firm of engineers, architects, and materials scientists committed to helping clients solve, repair, and avoid problems in the built world.

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## Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund (ESHPPF) – Capacity



Tornado damage in downtown Sulphur, Oklahoma. Photo courtesy of the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office.

Congress has appropriated emergency supplemental funds from the Historic Preservation Fund (ESHPPF) to provide support and capacity to State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices managing disaster recovery for historic preservation within Presidentially-declared disaster areas. Funding for physical repairs, recovery, and reconstruction of damaged properties is available under a separate notice of funding opportunity for fiscal year 2025.

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### Who May Apply?

Eligible applicants are limited to State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs) located in areas with major disaster declarations within their jurisdictions in calendar years 2023 and/or 2024. Applicants can interact with [this map](#) to verify their location within a declared disaster area. More information about major disaster declarations can be found at [Disasters and Other Declarations | FEMA.gov](#).

### What is Funded?

Eligible activities include program areas as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 3001 et seq.), focusing on administration, National Register, planning, survey and inventory, and review and compliance activities that meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation for needs associated with major disaster declarations in calendar years 2023 and/or 2024.

### What is Not Funded?

- Construction of new buildings
- Cash reserves, endowments, revolving funds, or fund-raising costs
- Lobbying or advocacy activities
- Costs to manage the grant may not exceed 25% of the total budget per statute
- Miscellaneous costs, contingencies, reserves, and overhead
- Work to federally-owned properties
- Local Government Certification
- Preservation Tax Incentives
- Cost related to Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) activities.

- Acquisition of collections or historic sites
- Conservation of collections
- Long-term maintenance or curatorial work beyond the grant period
- Work performed prior to announcement of award, except for work associated with storm damage that occurred after the FEMA-declared disaster period
- Costs for work already completed or funded through other federal programs
- Costs reimbursed by FEMA or insurance

## Grant Amounts

Awards may range from \$75,000 to \$15 million. Applicants are encouraged to apply for the funding that they need, but should take into account the amount of funding available for a large number of major disaster declarations eligible under this appropriation. Matching funds are not required.

## Selection Process

NPS personnel and qualified Federal employees will review all complete proposals using the criteria outlined below. Reviewers' evaluations are based solely on the material provided in the application. Additional materials not specifically required by the application, and materials sent separately from the application, will not be considered.

In addition to the criteria below, NPS may use planning numbers derived from US Census and FEMA data to guide allocation of funding across affected areas. This may include: US Census population of affected areas, number of approved FEMA Individual Assistance applications, and amount of FEMA Public Assistance Awards.

A summary of the review panel comments may be provided to the applicant if requested after the grant process is complete. All funded grantees will undergo a risk assessment as part of the award process.

## Evaluation Criteria

- **Significance:** Describe the resources affected by this proposal.
- **Need/Urgency/Threat:** Describe how the proposal addresses needs associated with recovery from an eligible major disaster declaration(s). The proposed work must address issues as a result of an eligible major disaster declaration and fulfill a clear financial need.
- **Feasibility:** List and describe all tasks and their anticipated results. The tasks must be achievable within 3 years, within a reasonable budget, and be performed with qualified personnel and/or consultants.
- **Sustainability:** Describe the impacts after completion of work, including long-lasting effects.

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## Process and Deadlines

Applications are anticipated to open in April 2025 and are due in June 2025. Pursuant to FY2025 Public Law 118-158, \$48,000,000 will be awarded under the ESHPF grant program by NPS. All applications must be made through Grants.gov. No paper applications will be accepted. Registration in Grants.gov, SAM.gov, and other federal systems can take up to four weeks, so please start early. Extensions will not be granted due to incomplete registrations in these systems. To be notified when the grant opportunity opens, please visit Grants.gov and subscribe to a saved search for CFDA number 15.957. You can create a saved search on Grants.gov under the "Connect" menu, then "Manage Subscriptions."

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### Additional Information

Visit [go.nps.gov/disaster](https://www.nps.gov/disaster) for more information about this grant program.

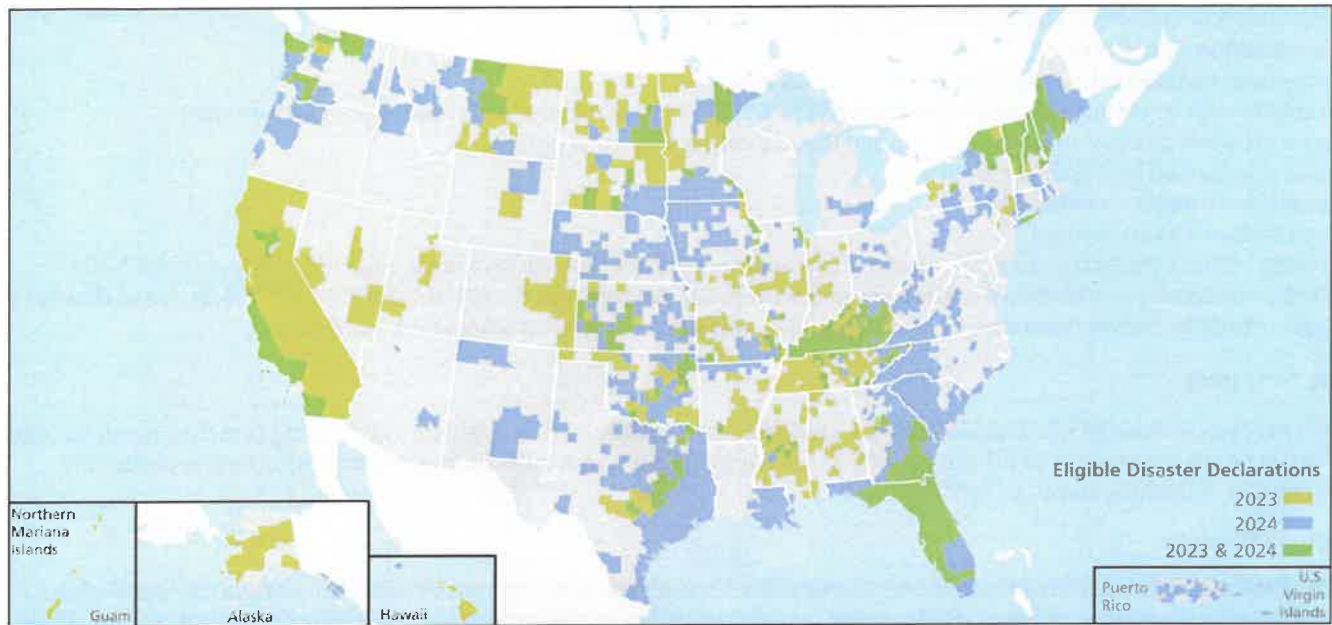
For more information on our other programs, please visit [go.nps.gov/grants](https://www.nps.gov/grants).

For application assistance:  
National Park Service  
STLPG@nps.gov  
202-354-2020

For Grants.gov assistance:  
support@grants.gov  
1-800-518-4726



## Emergency Supplemental Historic Preservation Fund (ESHPPF) – Preservation



Map showing location of disaster-impacted areas eligible for FY2025 ESHPPF disaster recovery grants.

Congress has appropriated emergency supplemental funds from the Historic Preservation Fund (ESHPPF) to provide relief to owners of historic properties and support preservation in communities that received a major disaster declaration pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.). Funding for State and Tribal Historic Preservation Office capacity and survey is available under a separate notice of funding opportunity for fiscal year 2025.

### Who May Apply?

- States and Territories
- Federally Recognized Indian Tribes, Alaskan Natives, and Native Hawaiian Organizations as defined by 54 USC 300300
- Local Governments, including Certified Local Governments
- Non-profit Organizations
- Educational Institutions

### What is Funded?

- Repair and recovery of cultural and historic resources damaged by a disaster with a major disaster declaration in calendar years 2023 and/or 2024. Applicants can interact with [this map](#) to verify their location within a declared disaster area. More information about major disaster declarations can be found at [Disasters and Other Declarations | FEMA.gov](#).
- Resources must be listed in or determined eligible by the applicable State or Tribal Historic Preservation Office for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, equivalent tribal register, or designated a National Historic Landmark, either individually or as contributing to a district. Projects not listed in the National Register or equivalent tribal register must prepare a nomination as part of the grant project.
- Eligible activities include program areas as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC 3001 et seq.), focusing on physical preservation, administration, National Register, planning, review and compliance, and pre-preservation activities such as survey and inventory, architectural plans and specifications, and historic structure reports as necessary to meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation.
- Reconstruction that meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Reconstruction and possesses sufficient historical documentation may be eligible. Refer to the Notice of Funding Opportunity for further details on eligible activities.

## What is Not Funded?

- Construction of new buildings that are not approved reconstruction projects
- Cash reserves, endowments, revolving funds, or fund-raising costs
- Lobbying or advocacy activities
- Administrative costs to manage the grant may not exceed 25% of the total budget per statute
- Miscellaneous costs, contingencies, reserves, and overhead
- Work to federally-owned properties
- Acquisition of collections or historic sites
- Conservation of collections
- Long-term maintenance or work outside the grant period
- Grants to sites or collections owned or leased by the NPS, or in which the NPS holds a property interest
- Costs for work already completed or funded through other federal programs
- Costs reimbursed by FEMA or insurance
- Local Government Certification
- Preservation Tax Incentives
- Moving historic properties or work on moved historic properties that are no longer eligible for listing in the NRHP
- Work performed prior to award announcement, except for damage that occurred within the FEMA-declared disaster period
- Costs related to Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA ) activities

## Grant Amounts

Awards may range from \$75,000 to \$15 million. Applicants are encouraged to apply for the funding that they need, but should take into account the amount of funding available for a large number of major disaster declarations eligible under this appropriation. Matching funds are not required.

## Selection Process

- NPS personnel and qualified Federal employees will review all complete proposals using the criteria outlined below. Reviewers' evaluations are based solely on the material provided in the application. Additional materials not specifically required by the application, and materials sent separately from the application, will not be considered.
- In addition to the criteria below, NPS may use planning numbers derived from US Census and FEMA data to guide allocation of funding across affected areas. This may include: US Census population of affected areas, number of approved FEMA Individual Assistance applications, and amount of FEMA Public Assistance Awards.
- A summary of the review panel comments may be provided to the applicant if requested after the grant process is complete. All funded grantees will undergo a risk assessment as part of the award process.

## Evaluation Criteria

- **Significance:** Describe the resource(s) receiving assistance, and their significance at the National, State, Tribal, or local level.
- **Need/Urgency/Threat:** The proposed project must address issues that threaten the resource(s) as a result of an eligible major disaster declaration and fulfill a clear financial need. Documentation of the damage must be included in the application.
- **Feasibility:** The proposed project must be achievable within 3 years, within a reasonable budget, and be performed with qualified personnel and/or consultants.
- **Sustainability:** Proposed projects must provide a community benefit and develop sustainable long-term preservation of the resource(s), including a risk management plan for future damage.

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## Process and Deadlines

Applications are anticipated to open in April 2025 and are due in late July 2025. Pursuant to FY2025 Public Law 118-158, \$48,000,000 will be awarded under the ESHPF grant program by NPS. All applications must be made through Grants.gov. No paper applications will be accepted. Registration in Grants.gov, SAM.gov, and other federal systems can take up to four weeks, so please start early. Extensions will not be granted due to incomplete registrations in these systems. To be notified when the grant opportunity opens, please visit Grants.gov and subscribe to a saved search for CFDA number 15.957. You can create a saved search on Grants.gov under the "Connect" menu, then "Manage Subscriptions."

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### Additional Information

Visit [go.nps.gov/disaster](https://go.nps.gov/disaster) for more information about this grant program.

For more information on our other programs, please visit [go.nps.gov/grants](https://go.nps.gov/grants).

For application assistance:  
National Park Service  
STLPG@nps.gov  
202-354-2020

For Grants.gov assistance:  
[support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)  
1-800-518-4726



# The Bell Tower

*The newsletter of the Oswegoland Heritage Association...*

August 2025



Roger Matile, editor

**The Oswegoland  
Heritage Association's**

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## ***In this issue...***

**Memorials assure  
Oswegoland's rich  
history will be saved for  
future generations to  
enjoy...Page 2**

**A full slate of late  
summer and early fall  
programming is on tap  
at the Little White School  
Museum...Page 3**

## ***Looking for virtual Oswego history?***

To visit the Little White School Museum virtually, go to their web site, [www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org](http://www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org), click on "Visit" at the top right, then choose "Videos." To e-mail us, send your note to [director@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org](mailto:director@littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org). You can also find us on Facebook. And remember: OHA memberships make great gifts for friends and family. ♥

## **Valuable collections added at the Little White School Museum this summer**



*As this photo attests, the Oswegoland Park District's first swimming pool, built in conjunction with the Oswegoland Civic Center in 1968, proved overwhelmingly popular when it opened in June 1960. The opening day image is one of hundreds donated to the Little White School Museum by the park district chronicling the district's history from the 1950s.*

In June and July, the donation of three large collections meant the preservation of valuable chapters of Oswegoland's history.

The first collection, donated in June by the Oswegoland Park District, was a large collection of photographic prints and slides recording the history of park district programs dating all the way back to the 1950s.

Another key donation was a collection of binders kept by Boulder Hill and Oswego Antique Study Group Historian Mary Swynenberg filled with the club's history from the 1960s until it disbanded a few years ago.

The third priceless donation was a collection of letters sent back to his family by Virgil Wheeler during his U.S. Army service in the Pacific Theatre during World War II.

The park district image collection, numbering 736 color prints and 454 slides, is a visual chronicle of the park district's facilities, personnel, and patrons during the past 75 years. Color photographs and slides chronicle

the development, maintenance, and improvement of many parks in the district's system, from its very first programming in the 1950s up through recent years.

"Some of the most interesting slides were taken by the district's first director, Ford Lippold," noted museum director Roger Matile. "Back in the 1950s, the park district hosted a teen club, the Panthers Den, on the second floor of the old township hall on the Washington Street hill in downtown Oswego, and Ford took a number of slides there, including of the club's new jukebox, acquired in 1954 and kids dancing to early rock 'n roll hits."

The park district is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, and to honor that museum coordinator Joe Noce has mounted an exhibit on the district's history in the Little White School Museum's main room. The donation of the park district collection came

*see "Museum donations" page 2...*

**Museum donations...**

at the perfect time to choose images to enliven the exhibit, Noce noted.

The Boulder Hill Antique Study Club was established in March 1964, and was open to all Boulder Hill residents interested in the study of antiques. The organization underwent some name changes over the years, gradually becoming the Boulder Hill Antique Study Group and then, to broaden membership opportunities, they began recruiting members from Oswego, changing the name to the Boulder Hill and Oswego Antique Study Group.

The materials in the collection recount the group's monthly meetings where they heard presentations from local enthusiasts and experts such as Boulder Hill resident Richard Hausemann, who specialized in antique Aurora Silverplate—a company begun by Lewis B. Judson, one of Oswego's founders.

The collection of 13 binders plus other club materials and memorabilia was donated by Mary Swyenenberg's daughter, Nancy Strothman.

"This collection adds valuable context to the history of Boulder Hill," Matile observed. "The group was one of the longest existing Boulder Hill civic organizations, one that not only filled a need for its members but also one that benefited the entire community through fundraisers for such agencies as the Valley Haven School For Exceptional Children."

As soon as Virgil Wheeler was inducted into the U.S. Army and went off to train in Tennessee in 1941, he began sending letters home to his parents, Seth and Maude Wheeler. The Wheelers farmed in NaAuSay Township. Wheeler kept up the correspondence until he was



*Virgil Wheeler, suitcase in hand, is shown heading off to basic training with the U.S. Army in 1941. Wheeler served in the Pacific Theatre in the battles for Guadalcanal and Bougainville, where he was seriously wounded, earning a Purple Heart. His niece, Judy Wheeler, recently donated a collection of nearly 50 letters he wrote home to his family in NaAuSay Township, just south of Oswego during his service.*

discharged in 1944 after having spent more than 30 months overseas with the Americal Division, participating in the battles for Guadalcanal and Bougainville, suffering mortar shrapnel wounds on Bougainville, being evacuated, and being awarded a Purple Heart.

After the war, he returned to Kendall County where he continued to farm in NaAuSay Township. He died in 1970 and is buried in the AuSable Cemetery. The letter collection was donated to the museum by his niece, Judy Wheeler.

Other donations to the Little White

**Bell Tower sponsor:**

**Your Business Name  
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*Want to see the name of your business or organization name right here three times a year? Just purchase a Business/Institutional membership, and your name or the name of your business or organization will appear in this space in three consecutive issues. The Bell Tower is published in April, August, and December of each year. See page 4 for more membership information.*

School Museum's collections and their donors since our last newsletter in April included toy blocks, a vintage Scrabble game, and a mythology card game, Judy Wheeler; a collection of Oswegoland Park District program catalogs, Kendra Potter, Oswegoland Park District; a collection of Oswego Girl Scout memorabilia, Mary Ann Stees; a collection of miscellaneous Oswego-related items including textbooks used at Tamarack School from Roger Matile; a large collection of photos, artifacts, and documents from the Janis Hoch estate, Jeanne Hoch Hester; a menu from Danielli's Restaurant, John Daniels; a Janis Hoch painting of the Oswego Depot as it looked about 1890, Joyce Logel;

Donations like those listed above assure the rich and varied history of the Oswegoland area will continue to be preserved for future generations. And we're always looking for more Oswego history so please always keep us in mind. ♡

**Memorials assure Oswego's history will be preserved...**

Memorial gifts to the Oswegoland Heritage Association is an especially meaningful way to recognize friends, family, and business associates, as well as organizations and special occasions, while at the same time supporting the collections, educational programs, and mission of the only organization dedicated to protecting and preserving the rich heritage and history of the Oswegoland area—the Oswegoland Heritage Association.

Honoring friends and relatives through memorials to the Oswegoland Heritage Association so far this calendar year were

Mark & Lori Koskie, Omer & Wanda Horton, Ralph & Sally Smith, Sons of the American Legion, Jim Mayer, and Teresa Hoch in memory of Janis Hoch; the members of the Oswego High School Class of 1964 in memory of all 104 graduating classmates; and Mark Lichtenberger in memory of Bert Gray.

Memorials to the Oswegoland Heritage Association are deposited in the Oswegoland Heritage Association Endowment Fund.

Make checks payable to the Oswegoland Heritage Association and mail to Memorials, Oswegoland Heritage Association, Box 23, Oswego, IL 60543. ♡

# August Heritage Notes...

## Little White School announces busy late summer and autumn schedule

A full slate of programming is scheduled at the Little White School Museum for the balance of the summer and autumn, so mark your calendars now! Programs on tap will be hosted and co-hosted by the Oswegoland Heritage Association (OHA) and Oswegoland Park District (OPD). To pre-register for programs (required for some, optional for others), call the OPD at 630-554-1010 or visit their web page at <https://www.oswegolandparkdistrict.org/> or the museum's registration page at [bit.ly/LWSMPrograms](http://bit.ly/LWSMPrograms)

**Saw Wee Kee History Hike**, Saturday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m. at Saw Wee Kee Park. Pre-registration, required, is \$5 for park district residents and \$7 for non-residents. Today, Saw Wee Kee Park as one of Oswegoland's premier natural area parks. Situated on the Fox River, Saw Wee Kee and the surrounding area have offered more than just a recreation since settlers first arrived. Little White School museum coordinator Joe Noce with guide this 2.79 mile hike on one of Saw Wee Kee's scenic Blue Trail to explore the park's rich history. Wear proper footwear and clothing for extended easy trail hiking. Participants should meet at the P2 Parking Lot in Saw Wee Kee Park on Sundown Lane in unincorporated Oswego Township.

**Oswego History Tour – Downtown**, Saturday, Aug. 23, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm., \$5 pre-registration is required. All communities evolve and change with time and Oswego is no different. Join us for a walk down Main Street between Jefferson and Washington. We will point out historic landmarks, talk about the types of stores and businesses that first appeared when the village was newly-formed, discuss the critical role that fires had in shaping our village, and explore the significant changes that have occurred over time with the growth of our village. Join members of the Oswegoland Heritage Association on this relaxing history walking tour. The tour will begin and end in front of the Oswego Public Library in downtown Oswego. Bring your walking shoes!



*Don't miss "Boulder Hill: Highlights of the first 36 years" at noon Saturday, Sept. 6 as the museum continues to recognize Boulder Hill's 75th birthday.*

**Oswegoland History Trivia Night** Saturday, Aug. 23, 7 pm - 9 pm., \$15. Test your local history knowledge at the Little White School Museum's Oswegoland Trivia Night at the Fox Valley Winery. Enjoy an evening of friendly competition while exploring the rich stories and fascinating facts that make Oswego unique. Whether you're a history buff or just looking for a fun night out, this event offers the perfect blend of learning and entertainment. So, grab a drink, and see how much you know about Oswegoland's past!

**Boulder Hill: Highlights of the First 36 Years, 1955 -1991**, Saturday, Sept. 6, 12-1 pm, Little White School, \$5. As soon as Ruth and Bev Skaggs bought their home in Don L. Dise's brand new Boulder Hill subdivision in 1956, Bev, a skilled amateur photographer, and his wife began chronicling the development's progress. Soon, Ruth began giving slide lectures on Boulder Hill's history and growth to area school and civic organizations. After the couple retired and moved to Batavia in 1992, she donated her slide collection to Oswego's Little White School Museum. In this presentation, Museum Director Roger Matile will present Mrs. Skaggs' program on Boulder Hill's history, which has been unseen for the past 33 years. A question and discussion session will follow the program. Proceeds will benefit the museum's mission to protect and preserve Oswego area history.

**The Fox River Trolleys**, Saturday, Sept. 13, 11 am - 12 pm Little White School, \$5. A little over a century ago, the discovery and commercialization of electric power helped create a new industry:

Electric interurban trolleys. These trains offered clean and efficient transportation for urban and rural riders alike, and a huge network of these lines grew up in the United States. Join us at the Little White School Museum with Doug Rundell, a volunteer at the Fox River Trolley Museum in South Elgin, who will present a talk covering the fascinating history of some lines that served Chicago and one line that served the Fox River Valley as far south as Yorkville.

**History Book Club**, Sunday, Sept. 14, 11 am - 1 pm, Little White School, \$5. History comes alive through the pages of captivating books! History enthusiasts are invited to connect and discuss a book to-be-determined at our next meeting. Join us for a journey through time and together, we'll explore the stories that shape our world! Those planning on participating must reserve or procure their own copy of the book.

**Oswego History Tour - Back to School**, Saturday, Sept. 27, 12-1 pm, meet at Little White School Museum, \$5 pre-registration is required. Schools play important roles in the life of any community. They are often social gathering places for communities - sporting events, arts and cultural events, parent/teacher meetings, and so many other examples. We will explore the "in town" schools in Oswego's history and help us tell their stories. Wear good walking shoes and be prepared to be part of the conversation. The tour will begin and end at the Little White School Museum.

**Oswego Cemetery Walk**, Thursday, Oct. 2, 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm Oswego Township Cemetery, \$7 in advance or \$10 the day of, space permitting, pre-registration required. Experience local history come to life during our annual Oswego Cemetery Walk. Participants will be guided through the cemetery to visit with "ghosts" of early Oswego residents and pioneers. Pre-registration is required. Please plan to arrive at the beginning of your time slot. Participants should be able

*Continued on Page 4...*

# Free! Please Take One

**Oswegoland Heritage Association**  
**Box 23**  
**Oswego, Illinois 60543**

## Heritage Notes from Page 3...

to walk for 45 minutes, wear comfortable shoes, and are encouraged to bring a flashlight. An adult must accompany all children. Registration is per person. Presented in partnership with the Oswegoland Heritage Association.

**Waa Kee Sha Park History Hike**, Saturday, Oct. 11, 10 am. Waa Kee Sha Park, \$5. Today, Oswego knows Waa Kee Sha as one of its premier parks, offering many outdoor adventures. But Waa Kee Sha Park and the surrounding area have been more than just a recreation site since settlers first arrived. The Oswegoland Park District invites you on a guided hike along the storied trails of Waa Kee Sha to explore its rich history. Please wear proper footwear and clothing for extended trail hiking. Participants will meet at the first parking area after entering the Park, the hike will last be approximately half a mile of easy walking.

**Oswego History Tour - Urban Barns**, Saturday, Oct. 25, 12-1 pm Little White School, \$5 pre-registration is required. Ever notice the barns in Oswego's downtown? Did you think they could only be found on the area's farms? These answers and the history surrounding them will be covered in this unique bus tour of some of the barns still standing today. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. The event begins and ends at the Little White School Museum and lasts about an hour. Presented by the Oswegoland Heritage Association in partnership with the Oswegoland Park District.

For more information about museum events, call 630-554-2999 during regular hours, email [jnoce@oswegolandpd.org](mailto:jnoce@oswegolandpd.org), or visit the museum web page at [www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org](http://www.littlewhiteschoolmuseum.org). 

 *Clip and mail*

## Gift membership?

The Oswegoland Heritage Association has some exciting plans for the future. Why not take out a membership for a friend or relative who has an interest in Oswego's fascinating history and heritage? Benefits include museum store discounts, three newsletters a year, and more. Just fill out this form and mail.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address 1:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address 2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **St.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive my newsletters electronically: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership type:

Friend, \$20 per person: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor, \$75 per person: \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Institution, \$150 \_\_\_\_\_

Lifetime Gold, \$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the  
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