

Cultural Landscape Report  
**OAKWOOD  
CEMETERY**

Syracuse

New York

By

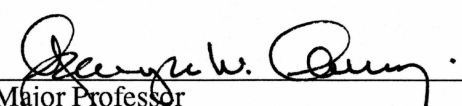
Karen E. Day

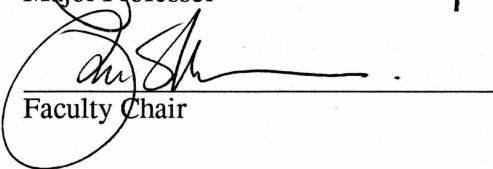
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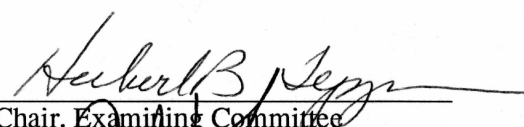
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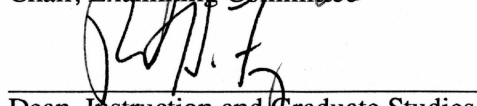
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Oakwood Cemetery, located in Syracuse New York, is a nationally significant example of a "rural" cemetery. A rural cemetery is defined by the National Park Service as a burial place characterized by spacious landscaped grounds and romantic commemorative monuments established in a rural setting at the dawn of the Victorian Era. Beginning with the development of Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 1831, rural cemeteries were the first American landscapes to treat nature as contained, manipulated settings that provided contrast to nearby cities. An intact example of this cemetery style, Oakwood Cemetery represents the culmination of the rural cemetery movement in America. This report discusses the development of the rural cemetery movement in the United States and the design of Oakwood Cemetery in 1859.

The primary goal of this Cultural Landscape Report is to document the historic appearance and content of the cemetery during the period of significance 1859-1940. Three prototype areas were selected for study: the Entry Area, the Inner Core and five privately owned Lots. An established list of character-defining landscape features was used to organize the site history, existing condition, and analysis sections. An analysis compared the landscape features from the established period of significance with the landscape features of 1993. Treatment recommendations were made based on this analysis and on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

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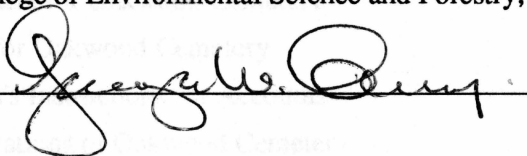
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# CONTENTS

List of Figures	iii
Introduction	1
Chapter One: The Rural Cemetery Movement in the United States	13
Chapter Two: A Rural Cemetery for Syracuse	27
Chapter Three: Entry Area History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis	73
Chapter Four: Inner Core History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis	129
Chapter Five: Privately Owned Lots History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis	157
Chapter Six: Treatment Recommendations	245
Conclusion	263
Endnotes	265
Appendices	
Appendix A: Landscape Features	Appendix: i
Appendix B: Expenditures Sheet for Oakwood Cemetery	Appendix: v
Appendix C: Receipts Sheet for Oakwood Cemetery	Appendix: vii
Appendix D: Howard Daniels's Instructions for Accounts	Appendix: ix
Appendix E: Rules and Regulations of Oakwood Cemetery	Appendix: xiii
Appendix F: 1856 Plant List from <i>the Horticulturist</i>	Appendix: xvii
Appendix G: Class Delineation	Appendix: xxiii
Appendix H: Plant List for Cultural Landscape Report: Oakwood Cemetery	Appendix: xxv
Appendix I: Town of Onondaga Map, 1854	Appendix: xxvii
Appendix J: Survey of Oakwood Cemetery, 1994	Appendix: xxviii
Bibliography	
Acknowledgments	
Vita	i

## LIST OF FIGURES

### Introduction

- Figure I.1      Location map for Oakwood Cemetery (Day, 1993).
- Figure I.2      Prototype areas outlined (Day, 1993).
- Figure I.3      View of the Horace and Hamilton White Lot, circa 1890s (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).
- Figure I.4      View of Dedication Valley, circa 1870s (E. M. Collins, Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure I.5      Area designed by Howard Daniels shaded (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin Jr., 1912).

### Chapter One: The Rural Cemetery Movement in the United States

- Figure 1.1      Engraving of Midland Avenue, Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, NY (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).
- Figure 1.2      Colonial marker with skull and cross-bones representing morbid view of death (Kenneth Jackson's *Silent Cities: The Evolution of the American Cemetery* (New York: Princeton University Press, 1989)).
- Figure 1.3      Nineteenth century marker with urn and willow tree representing hope and a belief in an afterlife. Grave marker on the grave of John Jacobs, 1843, Readfield, Maine (Day, 1992).
- Figure 1.4      Nineteenth century tombstone on the grave of Willie Price, 1861, Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, New York (Day, 1993).
- Figure 1.5      Landscape painting by Claude Lorrain. "Landscape with the Voyage of Jacob," 1677 (Melanie Simo's *Loudon and the Landscape* (New Haven and London, 1988), Plate 2.).
- Figure 1.6      Landscape by John Claudius Loudon. "Scone," 1811 (Melanie Simo's *Loudon and the Landscape* (New Haven and London, 1988), 51).
- Figure 1.7      A. T. Brongniart's Plan of Pere La Chaise cemetery, Paris, France, 1815 (Margaretta Darnell's "The American Cemetery as Picturesque Landscape." *Winterhur Portfolio* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1983)).
- Figure 1.8      Plan of Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1835 (Margaretta Darnell's "The American Cemetery as Picturesque Landscape." *Winterhur Portfolio* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1983)).

### Chapter Two: A Rural Cemetery for Syracuse

- Figure 2.1      Proposed site for Syracuse's rural cemetery, 1848 (*City Map of Syracuse, New York*, Onondaga Historical Association).

- Figure 2.2 Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, New York (Day, 1993, from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).
- Figure 2.3 Areas where Daniels could have done additional work in 1860 (Day, 1993, from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).
- Figure 2.4 Environmental context of Oakwood Cemetery (1893 Topographic Map, Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 2.5 Views of surrounding natural features provided by location of site (1893 Topographic Map, Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 2.6 Topography of area to the east of the site characterized by glacial landforms (1893 Topographic Map, Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 2.7 Historic view of Rose Hill illustrating the city cemetery, no date (K. Day collection).
- Figure 2.8 Boundaries of the city of Syracuse and town of Onondaga 1848 (City Map of Syracuse, 1860, Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 2.9 Land acquired in August, 1859 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 2.10 Approximated location of Jamesville Plankroad (Day, 1993, from Onondaga Town Map, 1854).
- Figure 2.11 Land Acquisition Map 1859-1889 (Day, 1994).
- Figure 2.12 View of Dedication Valley illustrating irregular, non-geometric landforms, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 2.13 Plan of Sunset and Fairview Avenues (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 2.14 Topography of Oakwood Cemetery (Day, 1994, from United States Geological Survey, Syracuse West, 1978).
- Figure 2.15 North-south section through cemetery illustrating general landform (Day, 1993).
- Figure 2.16 East-west section through cemetery illustrating general landform (Day, 1993).
- Figure 2.17 Location of Buildings and Structures (From map by R. Griffin Jr., 1912).
- Figure 2.18 Monument Location Map (Day, 1993).
- Figure 2.19 Sketch of vegetation cover according to 1857 period account (Day, 1993).
- Figure 2.20 Portion of Receipt Sheet for Oakwood Cemetery (Oakwood Cemetery Association).
- Figure 2.21 Plan of White Oak and Maple avenues illustrating historic tree locations (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 2.22 Plant List and Notes published in *The Horticulturist*, 1856.
- Figure 2.23 Milton Price Stereopair, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 2.24 Headly Lot, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 2.25 Spatial Organization Diagram illustrating the four spaces of the cemetery (Day, 1993).

- Figure 2.26 Burton Engraving (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).
- Figure 2.27 Intersection of Woodland and Central Avenue illustrating location of view described by H. P. Smith (Day, 1994, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 2.28 Barker Lot (Engraving from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).
- Figure 2.29 Plan of Lake View Avenue illustrating location of view described by H. P. Smith (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).
- Figure 2.30 Diagram illustrating road development in 1871 (Day, 1993, from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).
- Figure 2.31 Plans of section twenty-one illustrating smaller paths parallel to the slope (Day, 1993).
- Figure 2.32 Contrast of circular roads with more natural roads (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 2.33 Section view of cobblestone gutter (Day, 1993).
- Figure 2.34 View showing detail of path and road material, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 2.35 View of lily pond (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).
- Figure 2.36 Plan of Dedication Valley illustrating the location of the lily Pond, labeled LAKE (Map by R. Griffin Jr., 1912).
- Figure 2.37 View illustrating lots enclosed by fences (Engraving of Joseph Story Monument, from *Picturesque Pocket Companion*, 1839).
- Figure 2.38 Section signs placed on each section, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 2.39 View of Dedication Valley illustrating iron road signs, circa 1880s (Onondaga Historical Association).

### Chapter Three: Entry Area History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis

- Figure 3.1 Location of Entry Area, circa 1879 (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 3.2 Plan of Entry Area, circa 1860s (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 3.3 Plan of Entry Area, circa 1880s (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 3.4 Plan of Entry Area, circa 1902. Location of Chapel (1879), Greenhouse (1902), Office (1902), and bridge (1902), Superintendent's house and Oakwood Avenue (Map by R. Griffin Jr., 1912).
- Figure 3.5 Plan of Section fourteen and Entry Area (Map by Rhesa Griffin Jr., 1912).
- Figure 3.6 Section through Entry Area illustrating general landform (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.7 View of original iron Gate and Bridge from outside the cemetery, circa 1860s (Oakwood Cemetery Association).
- Figure 3.8 View of original iron Gate and Bridge from inside the cemetery, circa 1860s (Oakwood Cemetery Association).
- Figure 3.9 View of the Lodge, circa 1862 (Onondaga Historical Association).



- Figure 3.10 Later view of the Lodge, 1878 (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 3.11 View of the Chapel, circa 1880 (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 3.12 View of 1902 Gate and Bridge, circa 1902 (Oakwood Cemetery Association).
- Figure 3.13 Post card view of the Office constructed in 1902 (G.W. Curry Collection).
- Figure 3.14 Postcard of Chapel and Greenhouse, circa 1902, postmarked 1916 (Christine Lozner Collection).
- Figure 3.15 View of Greenhouse and palmhouse illustrating stone masonry base, no date (Oakwood Cemetery Association).
- Figure 3.16 Plan of the Lodge, circa 1878 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.17 Plan of Chapel, circa 1880 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.18 View of the Chapel, circa 1885 (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 3.19 View of Chapel, circa 1890 (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 3.20 Plan of Chapel, circa 1890 (Day, 1994).
- Figure 3.21 View of Chapel, circa 1899 (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 3.22 Plan of Chapel, circa 1899 (Day, 1994).
- Figure 3.23 Plan of Chapel, circa 1902 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.24 View of Chapel, circa 1935 (Oakwood Cemetery Association).
- Figure 3.25 Plan of Chapel, 1935 (Day, 1994).
- Figure 3.26 View of Office, circa 1920s (Oakwood Cemetery Association).
- Figure 3.27 Plan of area around Office, circa 1920s (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.28 Diagram showing woodland areas in Entry Area, circa 1860s (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.29 Spatial Organization Diagram of Entry Area, circa 1859-1879 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.30 Spatial Organization Diagram of Entry Area, circa 1879-1902 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.31 View of 1902 Gate and Bridge illustrating topography inside the cemetery, 1912 (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 3.32 Postcard view of the Chapel from the east on Midland Avenue circa 1880 (Christine Lozner Collection).
- Figure 3.33 View of Danforth Park and entrance to Oakwood, 1874 (Town of Onondaga Map, Danforth and Brighton, 1874, Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 3.34 Plan of land purchased by Oakwood Cemetery in 1902 (City of Syracuse Atlas, 1908, Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 3.35 Plan of Superintendent's House (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin Jr., 1912).
- Figure 3.36 Existing Conditions Plan of Entry Area, 1993 (Day, 1993).

- Figure 3.37 View of new road to Dedication Valley which cut through ridge (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.38 View of bridge showing fill area (Day, 1992).
- Figure 3.39 Aerial photograph of the cemetery illustrating area east of the boundary (Robinson Aerial, Inc., May, 1992).
- Figure 3.40 View of the bridge (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.41 View of the Office (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.42 View of existing trees (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.43 Diagram of woodland areas in Entry Area 1993 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.44 Spatial Organization Diagram for the Entry Area, 1993 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.45 Fill area visible from Entry Area, 1993 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.46 View from the Pierce Lot, Section three, of fill area and Entry Area (Day, 1992).
- Figure 3.47 Midland Avenue ends before reaching main Gate and Bridge (Day, 1993).
- Figure 3.48 View of light posts lining Midland Avenue, 1993 (Day, 1993).

#### Chapter Four: Inner Core History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis

- Figure 4.1 Location of Inner Core, circa 1860 (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 4.2 Plan of Inner Core illustrating privately owned land and cemetery owned land, Inner Core (Day, 1994, from map by R. Griffin Jr., 1898).
- Figure 4.3 East-west section through Inner Core illustrating general landform (Day, 1993).
- Figure 4.4 Topographic map of Oakwood Cemetery (Day, 1993, from United States Geological Survey, Syracuse West, 1978).
- Figure 4.5 Plan of Inner Core illustrating island at termination of Dedication Valley (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 4.6 Early view of Dedication Valley, circa 1860s (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 4.7 View of island at the termination of Dedication Valley from the south, circa 1880s (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 4.8 View of island in Inner Core from the Longstreet Lot, circa 1880s (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 4.9 Plan of island in Inner Core, circa 1880s (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin Jr., 1898).
- Figure 4.10 View of Dedication Valley looking north, circa 1890s (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 4.11 View of Dedication Valley looking south, circa 1890s (Annie Maltbie's Picturesque Oakwood (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills & Co., 1894).
- Figure 4.12 Plan of Inner Core, circa 1890s (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin Jr., 1898).
- Figure 4.13 Spatial Organization Diagram of the Inner Core, circa 1870s (Day, 1993).

- Figure 4.14 View north from Dedication Valley of Myers mausoleum, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 4.15 Avenues that led to Dedication Valley, Inner Core (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin Jr., 1898).
- Figure 4.16 View of Frazer Monument with wood bench on lot, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 4.17 Existing Conditions Plan of Inner Core (Day, 1993).
- Figure 4.18 View of Dedication Valley from the south illustrating the island (Day, 1993).
- Figure 4.19 View of Dedication Valley from the north (Day, 1993).
- Figure 4.20 Spatial Organization Diagram of the Inner Core, 1993 (Day, 1994).
- Figure 4.21 View of Dedication Valley from west ridge (Day, 1993).

#### Chapter Five: Privately Owned Lots History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis

- Figure 5.1 Location of five privately owned lots (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.2 The Oakwood Cemetery landscape consists of two zones, the privately owned lots and the land owned and maintained by the cemetery (Map from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.3 View of H. White Lot illustrates the use of stone coping to delineate lot boundaries (Engraving from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).
- Figure 5.4 Map showing class delineation adopted by Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery in 1959 (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.5 An analysis of section ten revealed that these were classified First Class in 1859 (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.6 The location of the lots selected by the twelve original trustees (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.7 Pattern of large family lots delineate the pattern of parallel landforms in the area surrounding Dedication Valley (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.8 Location of the Gere Lot  
a. Location of Gere Lot in cemetery (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).  
b. Location in section (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.9 Plan of Gere Lot, circa 1880s (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.10 Section through Gere Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.11 View of Gere Lot, circa 1880 (Photographer unknown, Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 5.12 View of Gere Lot from west, circa 1894 (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).
- Figure 5.13 View of Gere Lot from south, circa 1894 (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).

- Figure 5.14 Spatial Organization Diagram of Gere Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.15 Existing Conditions Plan of Gere Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.16 Spatial Organization Diagram of Gere Lot, 1993 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.17 View from west of Gere staircase (Day, 1992).
- Figure 5.18 Location of the Hoyt Lot  
a. Location of Hoyt Lot in cemetery (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).  
b. Location in section (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.19 Section through Hoyt Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.20 "Rear of Hoyt Lot", circa 1860 (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 5.21 Plan of Hoyt Lot, circa 1860s (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.22 View of Hoyt Lot from East, circa 1875 (Oakwood Cemetery Association).
- Figure 5.23 Plan of Hoyt lot, circa 1875 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.24 Spatial Organization Diagram of Hoyt Lot, circa 1860s (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.25 Spatial Organization Diagram of Hoyt Lot, circa 1875 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.26 View of Hoyt Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.27 Existing Conditions Plan of Hoyt Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.28 View of tulip-tree on Hoyt Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.29 Spatial Organization Diagram, 1993 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.30 Urn pedestal on Hoyt lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.31 Location of the Leavenworth Lot  
a. Location of Hoyt Lot in cemetery (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).  
b. Location in section (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.32 Plan of Leavenworth Lot, circa 1860 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.33 Section through Leavenworth Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.34 View of Leavenworth Tomb (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.35 Engraving of Leavenworth Lot, circa 1870s (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Company, 1871)).
- Figure 5.36 Spatial Organization Diagram of Leavenworth Lot, circa 1860s (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.37 View of white oak with distinctive branching pattern (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.38 Existing Conditions Plan of Leavenworth Lot, 1993 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.39 Spatial Organization Diagram of Leavenworth Lot, 1993 (Day, 1993).



- Figure 5.40 Location of the Longstreet Lot  
a. Location of Longstreet Lot in cemetery (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).  
b. Location in section (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.41 Plan of Longstreet Lot, circa 1880s (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.42 Section through Longstreet Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.43 View of original Longstreet vault (Engraving from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).
- Figure 5.44 View of original Longstreet Vault, circa 1870s (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 5.45 View of 1880 Longstreet Vault, circa 1890s (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).
- Figure 5.46 View of Longstreet Lot, circa 1880 (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).
- Figure 5.47 Spatial Organization Diagram of Longstreet Lot, circa 1880s (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.48 View of Longstreet Lot from Section fourteen (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 5.49 View of Longstreet Lot, circa 1880s (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).
- Figure 5.50 Existing Conditions Plan of Longstreet Lot, 1993 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.51 View of rear of Longstreet vault (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.52 Spatial Organization Diagram of Longstreet Lot, 1993 (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.53 View of Longstreet Tablet (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.54 Location of the Myers Lot  
a. Location of Myers Lot in cemetery (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).  
b. Location in section (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).
- Figure 5.55 Plan of Myers Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.56 View of Myers lot circa 1870 (Engraving from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Company, 1871)).
- Figure 5.57 View of Myers lot from Serpentine Avenue, circa 1870 (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 5.58 View of Myers lot from Serpentine Avenue, circa 1890 (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 5.59 View of Myers Mausoleum from the west illustrating stone steps, circa 1880s (Onondaga Historical Association).
- Figure 5.60 View of mausoleum illustrating exterior alterations (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.61 Existing Conditions Plan of Myers Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.62 View of Myers Lot (Day, 1993).
- Figure 5.63 Spatial Organization Diagram of the Myers Lot, circa 1880 (Day, 1993).

## Chapter Six: Treatment Recommendations

- Figure 6.1 Diagram of Entry Area illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).
- Figure 6.2 Diagram of Inner Core illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).
- Figure 6.3 Diagram of the Gere Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).
- Figure 6.4 Diagram of the Hoyt Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).
- Figure 6.5 Diagram of Leavenworth Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).
- Figure 6.6 Diagram of Longstreet Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).
- Figure 6.7 Diagram of Myers Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).

## INTRODUCTION

Oakwood Cemetery is a nationally significant example of a "rural" cemetery. A "rural" cemetery is defined by the National Park Service as ". . . 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 Victorian era."<sup>1</sup> The rural cemetery movement in the United States was a response to the increasing urbanization of American cities, the crowding of the cities' burial grounds, and new theories that social improvements could be gained from nature. Beginning in 1831 with the development of Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts, rural cemeteries were the first American landscapes to treat nature as contained, manipulated settings that provided contrast to the nearby cities. An intact example of this cemetery style, Oakwood Cemetery represents the culmination of the rural cemetery movement in America.

### Project Background

In 1859 the city of Syracuse decided to locate its rural cemetery amidst rolling hills and farms just south of the city proper. It was situated on a high point overlooking the city and Onondaga Lake. Today, Oakwood is bordered by the campuses of the State University of New York- College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse University, and private property to the north, Interstate Route 81 and railroad tracks to the west, Colvin Street and a residential neighborhood to the south, and Comstock Avenue and Morningside Cemetery to the east (see figure I.1).

In 1991 Oakwood Cemetery was designated a local protected site by the Syracuse Landmark Preservation Board and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The cemetery's national listing was the result of research conducted by Barbara Ebert and Christine Lozner of the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association (HOCPA). The research determined that the cemetery had national and local significance as a designed historic landscape based on the third criteria for evaluation as defined by the Secretary of the Interior. The third criteria states that:

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 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 individual distinction.<sup>2</sup>

Since its dedication on November 3, 1859, the eighty-two acre cemetery designed by landscape architect, Howard Daniels, has been a social and cultural resource to the city. The cemetery continues to be an invaluable educational resource to programs at the State University of New York- College of Environmental Science and Forestry and Syracuse University. Although the one hundred and thirty-five year old landscape retains a remarkable degree of integrity, time, lack of maintenance, and vandalism have caused deterioration.

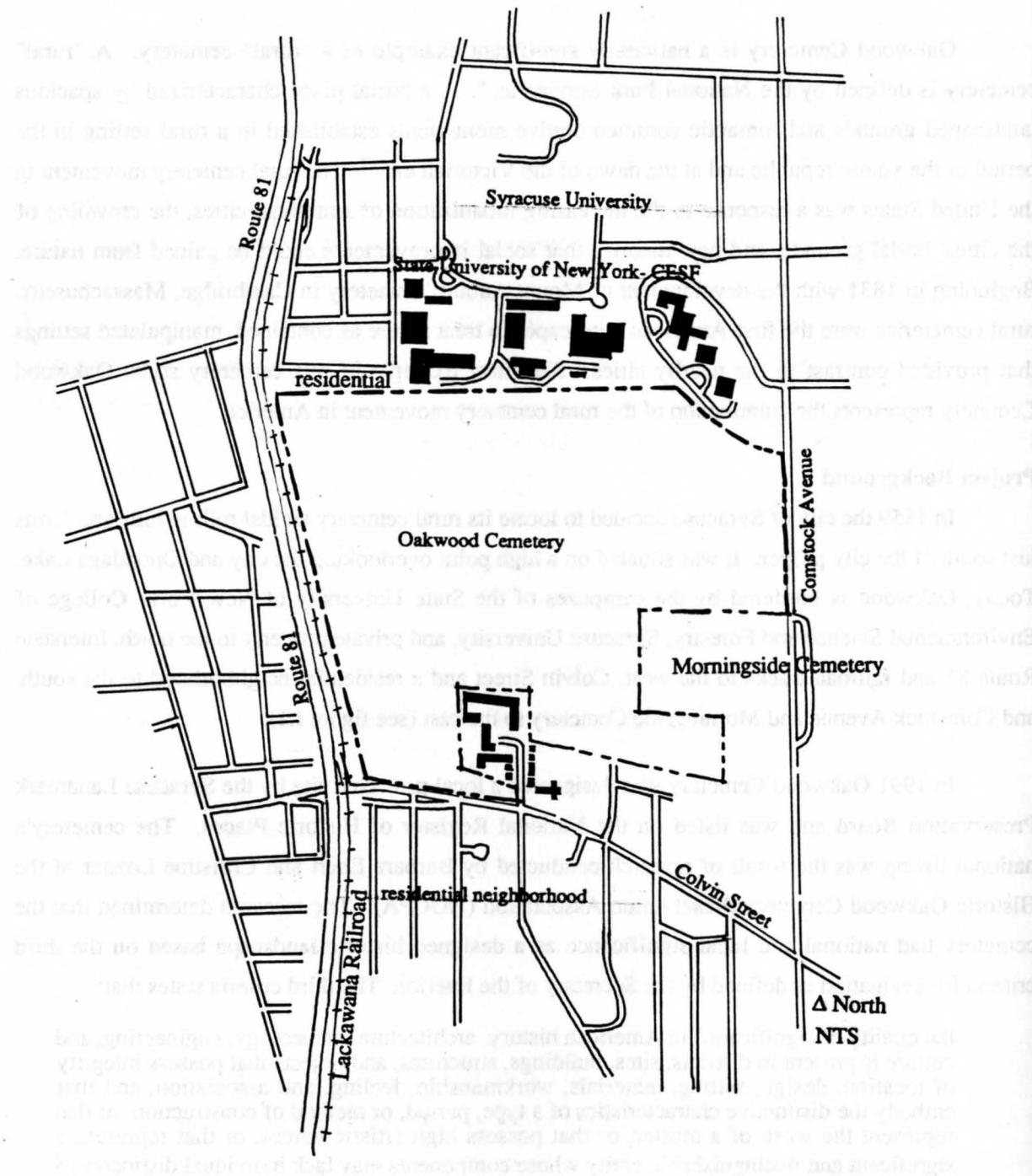


Figure I.1 Location map for Oakwood Cemetery (Day, 1993).

The Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association, a non-profit organization interested in preserving the cemetery and those features that contribute to its importance, was founded in the spring of 1990. The deterioration of the Chapel, vegetation, monuments, and mausoleums in the cemetery caused the group to act. Their stated purpose is to "... preserve, promote and protect Oakwood Cemetery, its abundant natural resources and its rich cultural and historical heritage, and to aid in maintaining and restoring the buildings, statuary, monuments and grounds."<sup>3</sup> The Association identified the need for a Cultural Landscape Report that would identify and analyze existing conditions and the rate and extent of deterioration, as well as offer treatment recommendations that could stop further deterioration of the resource.

#### Cultural Landscape Report: Objectives and Methods

The primary goal of this Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) for Oakwood Cemetery is to document the historic appearance and content of the cemetery during its period of significance, 1859-1940. The Secretary of the Interior defines the period of significance as the time span in which a property attained its importance "... to the history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture of a community, State or nation."<sup>4</sup> The Cultural Landscape Report will also offer recommendations, as determined by the research and documentation, that will guide future management of the cemetery. The specific objectives of and methods for this Cultural Landscape Report are:

1. To investigate the origins and development of the rural cemetery movement in the United States through secondary research of books and articles;
2. To document and represent the history and development of the Oakwood Cemetery landscape through primary research of available photographs, maps, and text;
3. To document existing conditions of the cemetery through field survey;
4. To analyze existing conditions and evaluate the landscape's integrity through a comparison of field survey information and historic documentation;
5. To evaluate and assess the historic preservation needs of Oakwood Cemetery and select appropriate treatments using the analysis of existing conditions and historic information combined with an understanding of contemporary needs; and,
6. To formulate recommendations and guidelines to achieve the objectives through a comparison of existing conditions, historic conditions, and contemporary needs that can be implemented by the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association and the Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery in the maintenance of the historic landscape.

#### Study Limitations

One major study limitation is the lack of an accurate base map of the cemetery. Discussion of landscape features such as topography, spatial organization, vegetation and circulation is difficult without a base map. The Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association is actively seeking funding in order to complete a map of the site. In May of 1992 HOCPA hired Robinson Aerial, Inc.



to take aerial photographs of the cemetery. At a cost of \$1,300.00 the aerial photographs were the first step in the photogrammetric mapping process. O'Brien and Gere, a Syracuse engineering firm donated ground controls to the project. Further funding from a grant is making it possible to complete a base map for approximately thirty-three acres of the Cemetery. This base map was completed April 1, 1994 (see Appendix J: Survey of Oakwood Cemetery, 1994). Although the map was not completed in time for use in this document, the invaluable information documented on the map was referenced. This map is the first of its kind for Oakwood Cemetery, and it will be an essential part of future research.

Due to the scale of the cemetery and the scope of this project, it was necessary to select prototype areas for thorough investigation and analysis. The methods and processes of investigation used for this report are discussed in an effort to facilitate future research of other areas of the cemetery as funding and resources allow. Prototype areas provide an opportunity to discuss a variety of landscape features that are representative of the larger historic cemetery. Landscape features such as spatial organization, landform, vegetation, circulation, furnishings and objects, for example, were considered important for investigation and all are represented in the prototype areas selected. The prototype areas include the Entry Area, the Inner Core, and five Privately Owned Lots (see figure I.2).

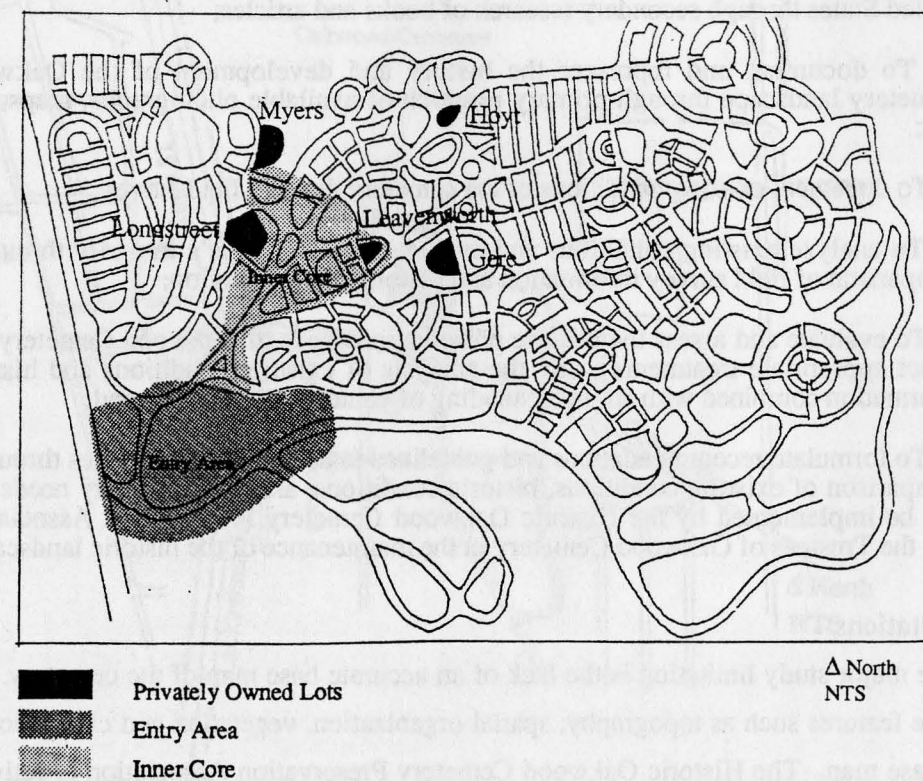


Figure I.2 Prototype areas outlined (Day, 1993).

The process of selecting the prototype areas included an analysis of the cemetery landscape which revealed layers of physical and functional organization. The functional organization distinguished and separated the Entry Area from the rest of the landscape. This portion of the cemetery, which included the original iron Gate and Bridge and caretaker's cottage (the Lodge) and subsequently the 1879 Chapel, 1902 Gate and Bridge, 1902 Office, and the 1902 Greenhouse, contained the service functions of the cemetery. In the nineteenth century the entrance gate marked the beginning of a day's tour through the cemetery, whether on foot or in a horse-drawn carriage. After being greeted by the cemetery superintendent at the Office, the visitor would then continue down Dedication Valley.

The next two prototype areas, the Inner Core and the Privately Owned Lots represent the main portion of the cemetery. This section of the cemetery landscape was organized on two levels: the public space, land owned and maintained by the Board of Trustees, and the private space, lots owned and maintained by individuals or families. While topography, circulation and the organization of sections and lots were manipulated by the cemetery's designer, Howard Daniels, to create the complex series of spaces throughout the cemetery, each privately owned lot contributes to the complexity and richness of the cemetery's character through the introduction of unique planting arrangements, exotic vegetation, and often elaborate monuments and site designs. One example is the Horace and Hamilton White Lot located in Section twelve on Dedication Valley. The White Lot is located in a prominent position at the western edge of an elongated hill. The architectural details of the lot, such as a low, curved stone wall and a set of fourteen steps, emphasize the unique landform and delineate and define the public roads from the private lot. (see figure I.3).

The public space is represented in the Inner Core. This area surrounding Dedication Valley was selected for its variety of landscape features such as topography, vegetation, spatial organization, and views and vistas. As its name implies, Dedication Valley is a low lying corridor, enclosed by steep slopes, that runs through the historic core of the cemetery. The central avenue continues through Dedication Valley, and from this point the visitor could choose any number of routes (see figure I.4).

Five Privately Owned Lots were selected to illustrate the way in which lot owners contributed to the richness of the landscape's character through the introduction of unique planting arrangements and site designs. In order to study the relationship between the privately owned lots and the cemetery owned land, five lots were selected, three of which were selected from the Inner Core. The lots of the Robert Gere, Hiram Hoyt, Elias Leavenworth, C. T. Longstreet, and Austin Myers families were investigated. The lots vary in size, style and monument type; some lot designs are modest and others are grand. The C. T. Longstreet and Austin Myers lots contain mausoleums the size of small



buildings, while the Gere lot and Hoyt lots contain free standing monuments. The lots of two founding trustees Austin Myers and Elias Leavenworth also were selected.

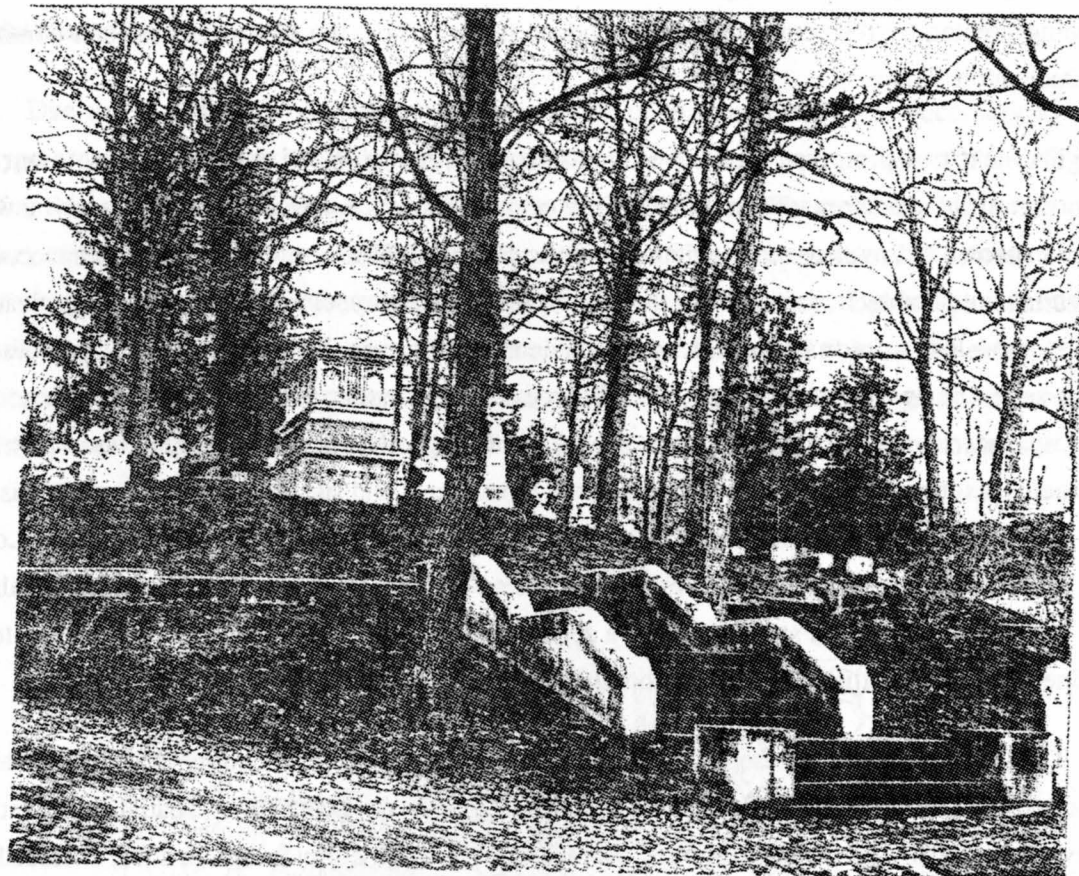


Figure I.3 View of the Horace and Hamilton White Lot, circa 1890s (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).

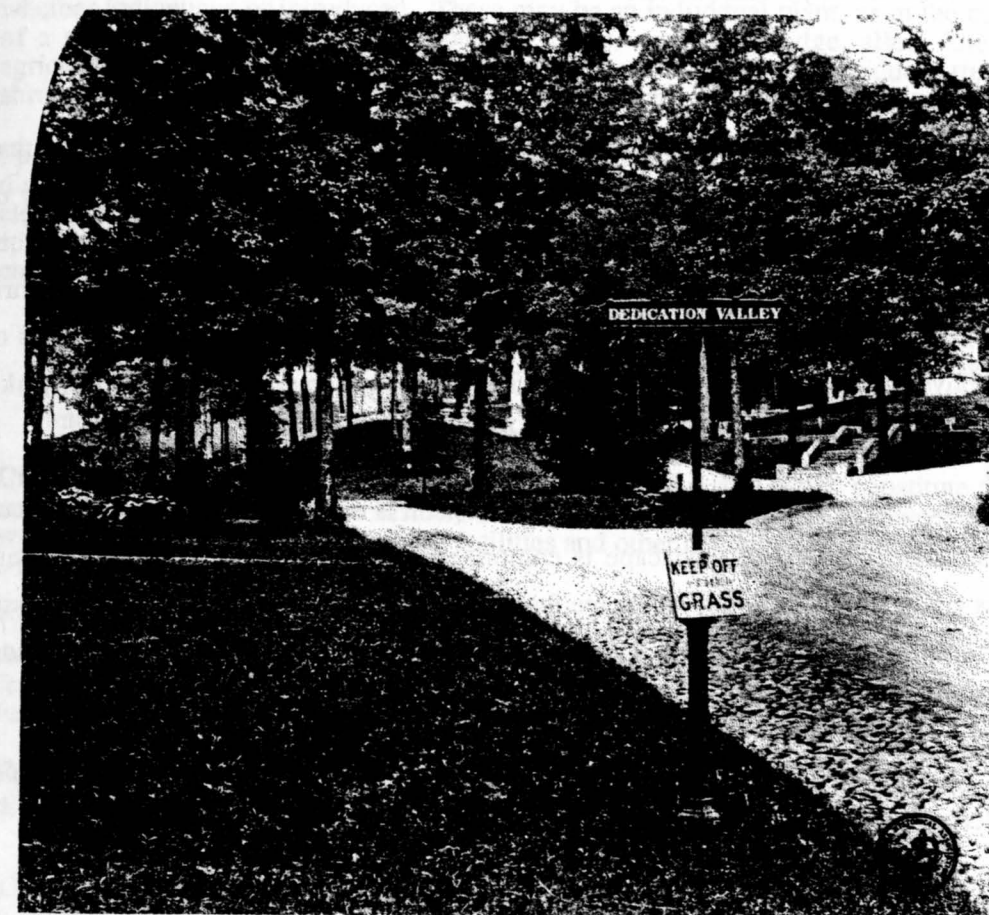


Figure I.4 View of Dedication Valley, circa 1880s (E. M. Collins, Onondaga Historical Association).

## Report Organization

The report is organized into five sections as follows:

### Chapter One

#### The Rural Cemetery Movement in the United States

In order to place Oakwood Cemetery in its historical context, this chapter discusses the development of the rural cemetery in America. A review of the social, cultural, and utilitarian reasons for this new style of cemetery is presented. Oakwood Cemetery is placed in the larger context of nineteenth century Romanticism.

### Chapter Two

#### A Rural Cemetery for Syracuse

In order to understand the integrity of Oakwood Cemetery as a cultural landscape that has evolved and changed over time, it is necessary to record the social and the physical history of the landscape. Additions and alterations to, and influences on the cemetery will be presented. Although a thorough history of the cemetery development was completed by Barbara Ebert and Christine Lozner for the 1991 National Register of Historic Places nomination form, further details of the history of the physical landscape were added. The site history section will reference their work, and, where indicated, additional material will supplement their research.

Due to the complex nature of the cultural landscape, it is necessary to organize the discussion of the site's history. A cultural landscape is comprised of many layers of natural and cultural characteristics and features. A list of landscape features was developed to organize the discussion in a way that would clearly describe the unique elements of Oakwood Cemetery. The landscape features developed for Oakwood Cemetery are as follows:

**Environmental Context:** the general influences affecting the historic landscape, the off-site larger physical and visual context which contains or encompasses the historic landscape.

**Natural:** the larger landscape context in which a cultural landscape exists. The natural context is defined by such factors as topography, predominant vegetation, and water resources.

**Social/ Cultural:** the general human overlay on the physical form of the surrounding environment that has or does directly affect the historic landscape such as general land use, zoning, legal restrictions, population, and political jurisdiction (state, county, city, village, town, etc.).

**Setting:** the most immediate physical and visual context for a designed historical landscape including the landscape's property limits as well as immediately adjacent properties and their general land uses.

**Natural Systems and Features:** In the process of manipulating the landscape, many of the natural aspects of the landscape often have a direct effect on the resultant form. Different from the natural context of the "Environment" section, "Natural Systems & Features" pertains to aspects of the historic landscape that are on the site or directly adjacent to it.

**Topography:** the inextricable framework of the historic landscape; the three dimensional configuration of the earth surface characterized by features such as ground slope, configuration of contours and visual forms, and orientation (elevation and solar aspect).

**Buildings and Structures:** the elements built primarily for sheltering any form of human activity (buildings) and the functional elements constructed for purposes other than sheltering human activity (structures). Examples of buildings are houses, barns, garages and stables. Examples of structures are bridges, windmills, gazebos, silos, and dams. Included in this category are mechanical and structural systems.

**Vegetation:** the most commonly used material in creating landscape features, whether indigenous or introduced. These may be an individual plant, as in the case of a specimen oak tree, or in a group of plants, such as a hedge, allee, forest, agricultural field, or a planting bed. Vegetation may be evergreen or deciduous trees, shrubs or ground cover, and include both woody and herbaceous plants.

**Spatial Organization:** the structure or order of the historic landscape, the three dimensional organization of physical and visual associations. The organization of elements creating the base plane, overhead plane, and vertical plane define and create spaces. The functional and visual relationship between these spaces is integral to the character of the historic landscape.

**Views and Vistas:** the features that contribute to a vista (a controlled or designed feature) or a view (natural or uncontrolled). The views or vistas may be toward or from the historic landscape and are individually and/or collectively important in defining the historic character of the historic landscape.

**Circulation:** the spaces, features and applied material finishes which constitute the movement ecosystems of the historic landscape. These elements include paths, walks, plazas, squares, roads, parking facilities and other related movement corridors and spaces.

**Water Features:** the built features and elements which utilize water to create thematic or aesthetic elements within the historic landscape; these include such features as fountains, pools, ponds, lakes, cascades, canals, streams, and other water-based elements.

**Furnishings and Objects:** the elements within the historic landscape which provide detail and diversity while addressing functional needs and aesthetic concerns.<sup>5</sup>

The cemetery developed in several phases; the first phase was approximately eighty-two acres laid out by Howard Daniels in 1859. Several later additions were made in the years following and the details of the land acquisition process will be presented. Site history will concentrate on the portion of cemetery designed by Howard Daniels, and all sections added by 1912 (see figure I.5). Although further additions were made during the period of significance 1859-1940, attention is focused on the sections designed in 1859 by Howard Daniels. Site features such as topography, circulation, and vegetation will be discussed in terms of the overall composition of the site.



### Chapter Three Entry Area: History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis

### Chapter Four Inner Core: History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis

### Chapter Five Privately Owned Lots: History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis

Chapters three, four and five will contain history, existing conditions, and analysis of the three prototype areas. The organization of these components will allow for ease of comparison and discussion. Landscape features as defined in chapter two were used to organize the discussion of history, existing conditions, and analysis. Seven features are discussed: topography, buildings and structures, vegetation, spatial organization, views and vistas, circulation and furnishings and objects.

Each chapter will be organized into three sections, history, existing conditions, and analysis. The history section will document the landscape features historic condition and location according to available historic documentation. Existing conditions will document the present condition of the landscape features and provide a detailed inventory of site features; and the analysis will synthesize the historic research and the existing conditions for each prototype area of the cemetery to evaluate the extent of deterioration and alterations to the historic design. Each site feature is evaluated for integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.<sup>6</sup> Each feature's contribution to the significance of the site then is evaluated. A contributing feature is one that was "... present during the period of significance, and possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is capable of yielding important information about the period."<sup>7</sup> A non-contributing feature is one "... not present during the period of significance, or due to alterations, disturbances, additions, or other changes, it no longer possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is incapable of yielding important information about the period."<sup>8</sup> The result of the site analysis is an assessment of the integrity of the prototype area as a whole.

### Chapter Six Treatment Recommendations

This chapter provides recommendations for the long term planning and management of Oakwood Cemetery. As the final chapter of this cultural landscape report, the treatment recommendations are based on the research and analysis of the cemetery landscape and the three prototype areas developed for the purposes of this report: the Entry Area, the Inner Core, and the five Privately Owned Lots. While it is possible and feasible for many of the recommendations to be completed by the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association and the Oakwood Cemetery Association, other recommendations are part of a long term plan for the cemetery which will require the continued efforts of HOCPA to secure funding and support for the historic resource and the continued cooperation of HOCPA and the Oakwood Cemetery Association.

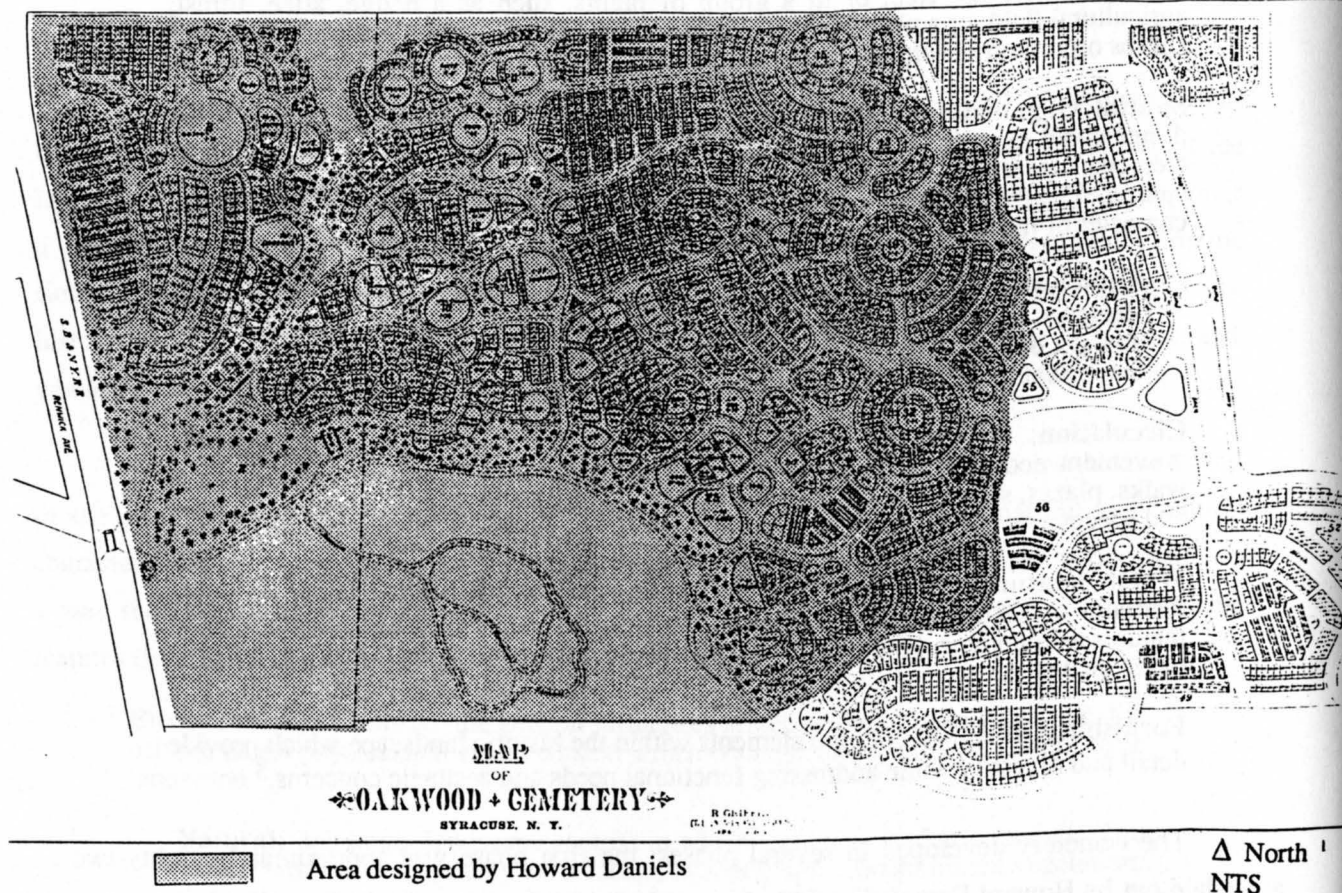


Figure I.5 Area designed by Howard Daniels shaded (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin, Jr. 1912).

The treatment recommendations are separated into three sections according to the prototype areas discussed: the Entry Area, the Inner Core, and the five Privately Owned Lots. The treatment recommendations for each of the three prototype areas focus on issues such as vegetation management (e. g., the replacement and removal of trees and shrubs), the preservation of features that retain the historic character of the cemetery, and treatments that would reestablish the spatial character and organization of the cemetery.

Recommendations will be based on the latest Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes. In 1992 the National Park Service revised and consolidated the seven previous treatments and published standards for four treatments: preservation (which now includes protection and stabilization), rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction.

Preservation focuses on the maintenance and repair of existing materials and retention of a property's form as it has evolved over time. Rehabilitation acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character. Restoration is undertaken to depict a property at a particular period of time in its history, while removing evidence of other periods. Reconstruction re-creates vanished or non-surviving portions of a property for interpretive purposes.<sup>9</sup>

Treatment conclusions are made on the basis of the analysis completed in the preceding chapters and will result in specific recommendations for the Entry Area, Inner Core, and Privately Owned Lots.

## CHAPTER ONE

### The Rural Cemetery Movement in the United States

Woodlawn, Graceland, Spring Grove. These are all names of rural cemeteries designed in the nineteenth century. The names given to the cemeteries reflect the Romantic association with nature at the center of the changing culture and society during this period. Names with natural associations were used to distinguish the new burial places from traditional graveyards that were located within the boundaries of the city. Designed and laid out in 1859, Oakwood Cemetery is a remarkable example of this change in society, culture and city form; it is an example of the rural cemetery movement in nineteenth century America.

The rural cemetery movement in America began in 1831 with the construction of Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The new trend in burial ground design spread across the country, and by the late nineteenth century almost every urban center had a rural cemetery. The movement influenced urban form through the creation and development of urban parks. This chapter discusses the development of the rural cemetery movement in the United States, and places Oakwood in its context as a significant example of this landscape type.

There has been a great deal of recent research on the rural cemetery movement in the United States. Landscape architects, historians, and urban planners have recognized the importance of the movement to the history and development of both the American city and the profession of landscape architecture. The rural cemetery movement marked an important change in culture, art, and urban form. The causes of the movement were both social and cultural, utilitarian and romantic. Health and sanitation in crowded city graveyards were major considerations, and at the same time, a social change was taking place. Romanticism was changing the way Europeans and Americans viewed art, death, and the landscape. Although research shows differing views about the leading cause for the shift of burial grounds from the city to the country, one cultural historian, Naomi Remes, states that the predominant reason was functional: "The reason for the transition from the eighteenth century graveyard was initially utilitarian, but soon the rural cemetery was additionally justified by its service to the Romantic values of the new age."<sup>10</sup>



### Utilitarian Issues

The health hazards of the city graveyards were first recognized in Paris when the *les Innocents* graveyard was closed because it was believed that the gases emanating from the graves threatened public health.<sup>11</sup> Dr. Jacob Bigelow, founder of Mount Auburn Cemetery, published a pamphlet in 1822 outlining the dangers of contemporary urban burial practices, and in 1823 the New York City Board of Health declared that "... interments of dead bodies within the city ought to be prohibited."<sup>12</sup> The condition of poorly maintained churchyards, the great demand for city lands, and the public belief that the proximity to graves threatened public health led to the decision to locate new burial grounds outside the city center.

The new location for a community's rural cemetery was not the only factor that contributed to its popularity. As David Schuyler, professor of American History, points out in his article, "The Evolution of the Anglo-American Rural Cemetery: Landscape Architecture as Social and Cultural History," it was the quality of landscape scenery combined with the rural setting that differentiated the new style of rural cemeteries from the older burial grounds. Grove Street Cemetery (1796), for example, a cemetery located outside of New Haven, Connecticut, was rural only in its location. The six acre cemetery was located in a compact grid no different from the city church graveyards. Schuyler states that scenic qualities must have been more important than the protection of health, "... as Grove Street Cemetery inspired no imitators."<sup>13</sup>

Although there were several cemeteries built in rural locations prior to 1831, Mount Auburn was the first to resolve both utilitarian and scenic concerns. The history of Mount Auburn is well documented. The cemetery was established by Dr. Bigelow and the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. Dr. Bigelow was driven by his belief that the dead deserved a more respectful resting place. The original concept for the cemetery included an experimental garden and arboretum. Members of the Horticultural Society believed that education should be a major function of the new arboretum and cemetery. The Horticultural society hoped that "... the whole would ultimately offer such example of landscape gardening as would be creditable to the Society and assist in improving the taste of the public in its highest branch of horticulture."<sup>14</sup> Mount Auburn, with its curving drives and picturesque views, became a spot for Sunday outings and an attraction to be seen by every visitor to Boston. Cemeteries continued to grow in popularity, and soon rural cemeteries around the country were evolving into their own social and cultural institution (see figure 1.1).

### New View of Death

Although the shift from graveyards of the city to rural cemeteries in the country does not seem monumental today, the change was a radical one. Barbara Rotundo, an American historian who has studied many reform movements of the nineteenth century, states that "... the rural cemetery movement succeeded so well that few people today realize that it ever existed."<sup>15</sup> Rotundo found that

there were not many people who objected to the idea of locating burial grounds far from cities, but the few who did rejected the proposal strongly. People believed that burying their dead so far from the city and their home meant that they were deserting them in some way. "The argument that people would forget their dead if they were buried in a rural cemetery was answered by sentimental descriptions of the comfort gained by a visit to the dead in a beautiful surrounding."<sup>16</sup> The sentimental description Rotundo refers to was addressed in *Mount Auburn Illustrated* in 1847: "We may well gain a lesson from nature amid such scenes of tranquil beauty, and learn to conform our lives to the order of her works in view both of the present and the future."<sup>17</sup>



MIDLAND AVENUE.

Figure 1.1

Engraving of Midland Avenue, Oakwood Cemetery (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).

Death rituals in the nineteenth century were very different from those of today. Remes states the extended family, the close knit community and the high mortality rates for both infants and adults as reasons. A funeral was a community affair. The ideal cemetery became an important part of the mourning ritual. According to Remes, "Under the sway of nineteenth century Romanticism, what people could not avoid, they made beautiful."<sup>18</sup>

This Romantic view of death also was completely different from that of the preceding century. The Colonial attitude towards graveyards was indifference. Stanley French an American historian, in, "The Cemetery as Cultural Institution: The Establishment of Mount Auburn and the Rural Cemetery Movement," states that the poets of the "graveyard school" during the eighteenth century exemplify the finality of death and the horrors of decomposition that were common in the colonial period. French includes a poem written in 1743 by Robert Blair, an eighteenth century poet, titled "The Grave":

... the task is mine,  
To paint the gloomy horrors of the tomb;  
... the Grave, dread thing!  
Men shiver when thou'rt named: Nature appal'd  
Shakes off her wonted firmness. Ah! how dark  
Thy long-extended realms, and rueful wastes!<sup>19</sup>

In the nineteenth century, burial places were no longer called graveyards, but cemeteries. The word cemetery had important connotations. Cemetery is from the Latin *coemeterium*, which derives from the Greek word meaning place to lie down, bed.<sup>20</sup> The cemetery was described as a calm dwelling, a final resting place, or a spot of eternal rest. With the rural cemetery came a disregard for the old view of death as final and grotesque. The skull and cross-bones of the colonial era that were used on gravestones to symbolize the mortality of the body were replaced by softer images of urns and oak trees, symbols of the afterlife, resurrection, and hope (see figures 1.2, 1.3).<sup>21</sup>

The dramatic shift from the colonial period to the Romantic period is further expressed in the way children were taught about death. The Puritan child and nineteenth century child were both told to think about death, but in remarkably different ways. David Stannard explains:

The Puritan child was told to think daily about death of 'how it would be on a death bed' of 'what a dismal thing it will be.' The instruction of the nineteenth century child ... involved the precise reversal of all this: he was told to contemplate death because it meant peaceful and glorious transformation, often likened to the releasing of a butterfly from a cocoon; and most important, it meant a transformation that brought with it eternal and heavenly reunion with parents and siblings in the afterlife.<sup>22</sup>

Monuments in the nineteenth century reflected the ideas that death was a "peaceful transformation", a "heavenly reunion". Romantic monuments for children often depicted a child sleeping in a chair or a bed (see figure 1.4).

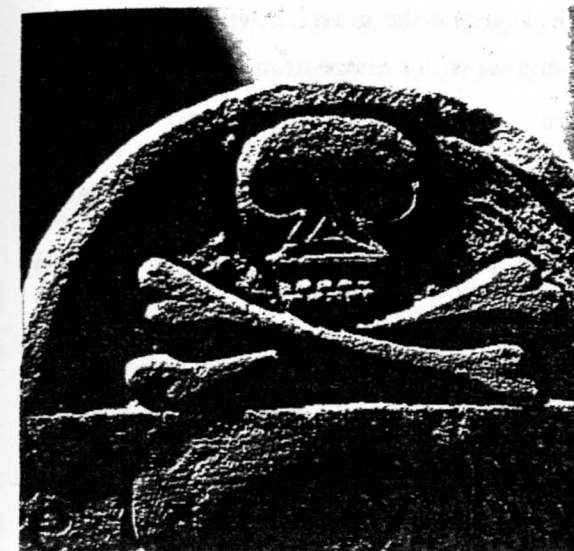


Figure 1.2 Colonial marker with skull and cross-bones representing a morbid view of death (Photograph by Kenneth Jackson, *Silent Cities: The Evolution of the American Cemetery* (New York: Princeton University Press, 1989)).

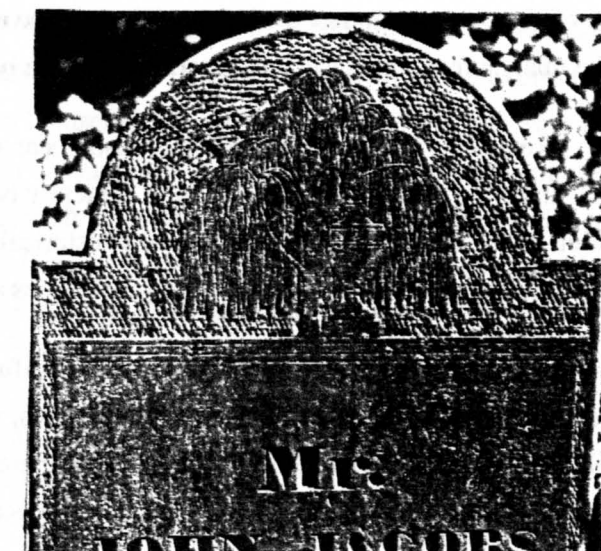


Figure 1.3 Nineteenth century marker with urn and willow tree representing hope and a belief in an afterlife. Gravemarker on the grave of John Jacobs, 1843, Readfield, Maine (Day, 1992).



Figure 1.4 Nineteenth century tombstone on the grave of Willie Price, 1861, Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, New York, (Day, 1993).



Not every one believed that death should be seen as an eternal rest, however. One clergyman from Boston, Nehemiah Adams, thought the sylvan character of Mount Auburn would remove "... some of the unpleasant associations which they have with dead and the grave, it will be likely to soothe many a fear which can be entirely removed only by religion with its hope of mortality."<sup>23</sup>

Remes believes that the cemetery also became an expression of the past and history for the new country. "Once established, the rural cemetery became a moral symbol: It extended the sacred function of the home and family, it offered a historical link with the past for a relatively new country, and in other ways it was believed to have possibilities as an instructional institution."<sup>24</sup>

The picturesque landscape became a beautiful place for the dead and the living. The ideal cemetery, a landscaped area with hills, valleys, lakes, views, and vistas played a role in the mourning ritual; it was a place for the deceased to be remembered and beauty beheld. The designed landscapes expressed the mourner's belief that death was no longer a finality, an end, but eternal and peaceful.

### The Romantic Landscape

Utilitarian issues and changing ideas about death also were influenced by, and perhaps the result of, the Romantic Movement. Romanticism began as a reaction to the growing industrialization of cities. Industrialization caused people to re-evaluate the meaning of nature. Prior to romanticism, nature was viewed as wild, untamed and uncontrollable. With Romanticism came the belief that nature could be controlled. People had very progressive attitudes about controlling the landscape around them; human impact on the land was considered an improvement. The pastoral aspects of the countryside were idealized by landscape painters, and urban dwellers viewed agrarian life as pure, wholesome, and undisturbed.

The rural cemetery symbolized change in the urban dweller's view of nature as cities grew and people became increasingly distant from their agrarian past. The agrarian ideology that became popular during the nineteenth century celebrated the charms of rural life, but had forgotten the hard work that was involved. Schuyler states that during the first half of the nineteenth century traditional agrarianism dissolved into nostalgia and an appreciation for natural scenery.<sup>25</sup> Nature became a place for contemplation. This Romantic ideology originated in the landscape paintings of Europe, and its influence was expressed in the United States through American landscape painting and the development of rural cemeteries.

The Romantic movement in Europe was initially an elite movement embraced by the landowners of Europe. The rural countryside in Europe was idealized as land became a commodity. Land, especially land that was not farmed or used for any purpose, was viewed as a symbol of wealth and status in the society. "Landscape" paintings became popular as aristocrats commissioned portraits

of themselves in a picturesque setting on their estate. These landscape paintings marked an important shift in the view of nature. The term *landscape* was invented to describe these scenes. Landscape gardeners in Europe, notably John Claudius Loudon, started to emulate the qualities of the landscape scenes. Loudon explained in an essay, "Of Painting", how "... composition, coloring, expression, and other concerns of the painter were relevant to landscape design."<sup>26</sup> Estates and farms were laid out by landscape gardeners with a character similar to landscape paintings by early Romantic painters such as Claude Lorrain (see figure 1.5). Elements such as foreground, background, vistas, and water features such as lakes or rivers were employed in estate grounds to create scenes that could be admired passively by strolls through the grounds or carriage rides (see figure 1.6).



Figure 1.5

Landscape painting by Claude Lorrain. "Landscape with the Voyage of Jacob," 1677 (Melanie Simo's *Loudon and the Landscape* (New Haven and London, 1988), Plate 2).



Figure 1.6 Landscape by John Claudius Loudon. "Scone", 1811 (Melanie Simo's *Loudon and the Landscape* (New Haven and London, 1988), 51).

In America, the painters of the Hudson River School portrayed American landscapes as they had never been seen before. Thomas Cole and Frederic Church painted wilderness areas as beautiful, peaceful, pure scenes from which man could gain intellectual and emotional strength. Many proponents of the movement employed this idea that the environment could affect emotions and intellect to describe the benefits of a rural cemetery. Andrew Jackson Downing, a landscape gardener, described his romantic gardening style: "Here are all the elements of what is termed natural beauty-or a landscape characterized by simple, easy and flowing lines. . . ."27 Downing, like his English counterpart, compares this vision to the paintings of Claude Lorrain: ". . . graceful, flowing, and harmonious. . . ."28 Schuyler points out these Romantic ideologies that began in art were applied to the American rural cemetery. "This tenet of Romanticism, that landscape scenery would assuage grief and elevate the emotions, became a recurring theme among writers describing the influence of cemeteries."29

The physical form of the American rural cemetery was predominantly influenced by *Pere La Chaise* in Paris.<sup>30</sup> *Pere La Chaise* was the first cemetery of its kind. Designed in 1815, it was built on an old estate of rolling hills outside of the city. The architect A. T. Brongniart designed the cemetery with two contrasting elements: the axial entrance reminiscent of the grand views and tree-lined allees of Versailles (1600's), and the picturesque treatment of the hilly natural features of the site (see figure 1.7).<sup>31</sup>

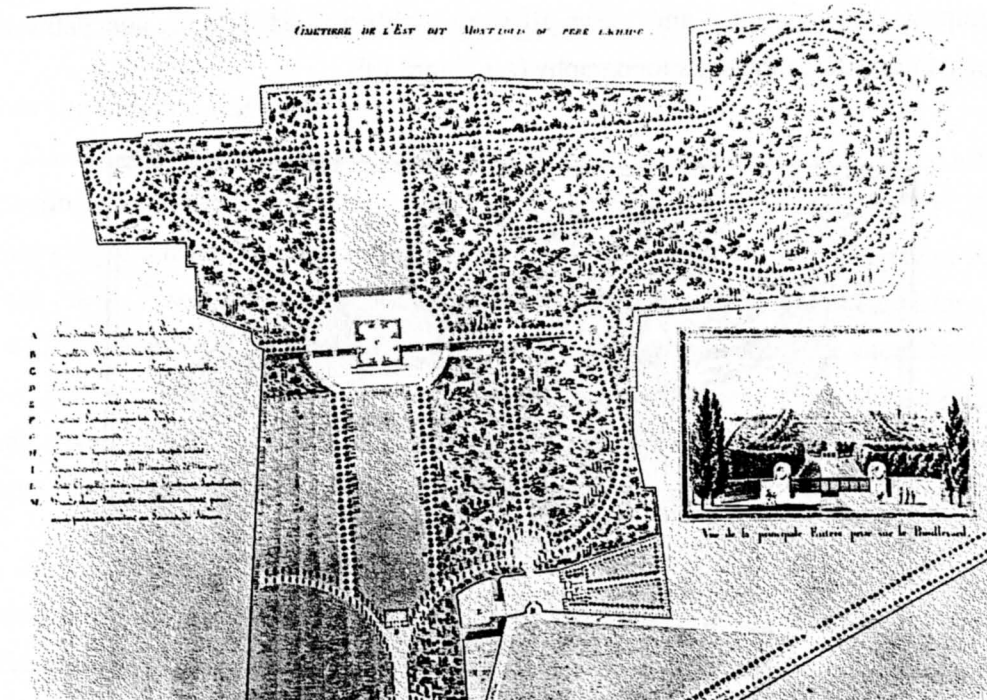


Figure 1.7 A. T. Brongniart's Plan of Pere La Chaise cemetery, Paris, France, 1815 (Margaretta Darnell's "The American Cemetery as Picturesque Landscape." *Winterhur Portfolio* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1983)).



The rural cemetery form was first exhibited in the United States in Mount Auburn. Mount Auburn was a culmination of the influence of Romantic gardens of Europe, the utilitarian needs of the city of Boston, and the desire for a more peaceful setting to place the dead. After the execution of Mount Auburn, cities all over the country commissioned rural cemeteries. Soon, American cemeteries were separating themselves from their European predecessors and boasting of greater natural characteristics. The new style emphasized the naturalistic and designs responded to the unique features of the landscape regardless of the topography or region of the city. Sites with unique topography, however, were preferred for their unusual natural characteristics. Woodland areas, irregular topography, water features, and views all were highly valued. Roads and paths were curvilinear, often conforming to the site's topography (see figure 1.8).

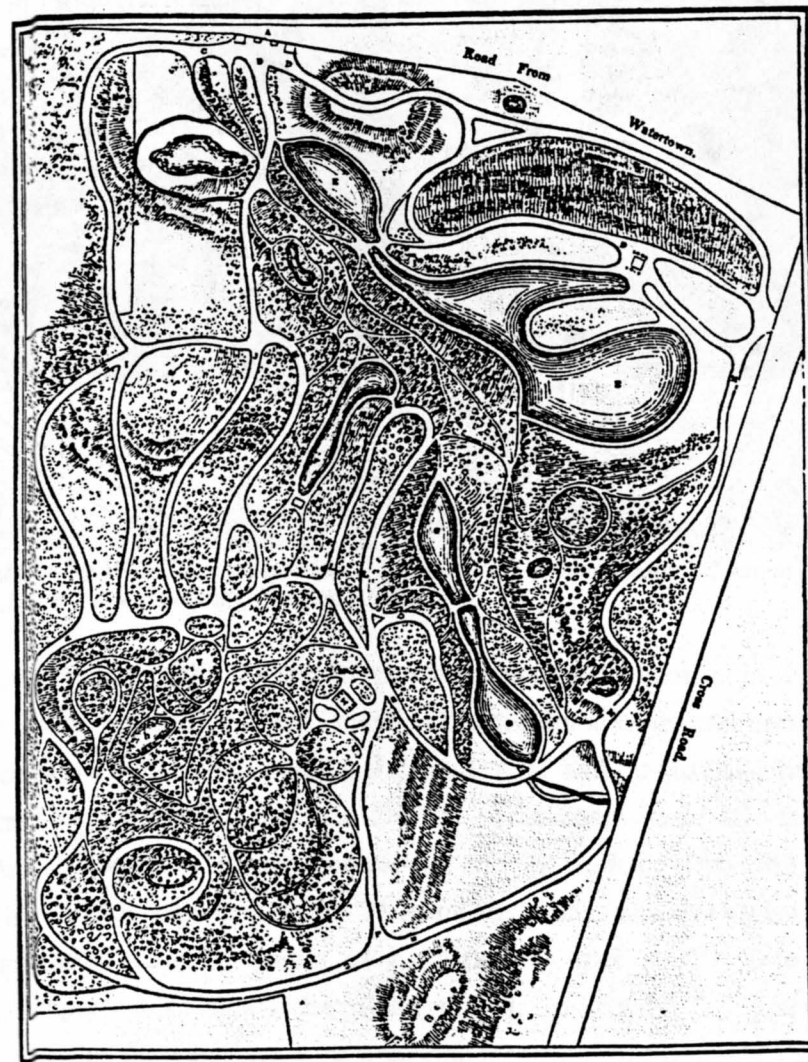


Figure 1.8 Plan of Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1835 (Margaretta Darnell's "The American Cemetery as Picturesque Landscape." *Winterhur Portfolio* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1983)).

"Drawing upon the tenets of eighteenth century aesthetic theory they avoided straight lines and placed avenues and paths to conform to the area's natural topography."<sup>32</sup> Thomas Bender in "The 'Rural' Cemetery Movement: Urban Travail and the Appeal of Nature," states that there was an intense need for all urban dwellers to turn to "... the convention of Romanticism to cope with the emergent city," and that "... as the city became more paved over, more hurried, and commercial, a change of scenery reminiscent of the rural past, a readily accessible natural sanctuary within close proximity to the city became necessary."<sup>33</sup> The rural cemetery was the first institution to offer the cities' people a change of scenery. The popularity of the cemeteries would convince landscape gardeners and civic leaders that there was a need for city parks in the same tradition.

#### Effect on the Urban Landscape

David Schuyler has focused on the effect of the rural cemetery movement on urban form and the changing ideologies of the city. Schuyler's *The New American Landscape* discusses the American people's reaction to the radical shift from the country to the city. Schuyler states that this move was the "... most fundamentally dislocating experience in all of American history."<sup>34</sup> Perhaps this is why so many social reformers almost immediately began searching for alternatives to the urban gridiron; places that would provide relief from the crowded cities. Schuyler proposes that rural cemeteries were the first alternative to the grid street pattern of the city, and therefore played an important role in the new urban landscape of the nineteenth century.

Rural cemeteries were designed, manipulated settings with curved and winding paths. They were picturesque settings that symbolized the idyllic landscape: places for contemplation, mourning, and reflection. The rural cemeteries were areas of controlled nature that were beneficial because they did not take anything away from the urban city. The two distinct areas were seen as separate, the urban "inside" and the rural "outside."<sup>35</sup> The rural cemetery could purify the city without compromising its urbanity. Instead of trying to blend the country into the city, the cemeteries let the cities retain their urbanity, "... but insisted upon easy periodic access to nature."<sup>36</sup> Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903), the designer of Central Park in New York City in 1857, stated that there is "... no broad question of country life in comparison with city life; ... it is confessedly a question of delicate adjustment between the natural and the artificial."<sup>37</sup> Thomas Bender, another historian who has written about the change in attitudes toward urban centers, terms this ideology the "counterpoint theory". American people turned away from the strategy of blurring city and country. As mechanization and the city became more powerful, the counterpoint theory was used to protect nature from the destructive industrialism. "Mid-century Americans attempted to preserve as much of nature as was possible in a nation of cities and machines."<sup>38</sup> According to Bender, the city and its rural cemetery were distinct entities whose unique qualities counterbalanced each other.

The contrast of the rural cemetery and the city was popular to urban dwellers. This contrast between the outside and the inside, expanded beyond the rural cemetery to become the basis for the American park movement. In England, John Claudius Loudon criticized naturalistic cemeteries because they "... bear too great a resemblance to pleasure grounds ..." but stated that people were using them as such because "... they are at present the best places of the kind to which the public have access." In the United States, both Frederick Law Olmsted and his contemporary and fellow landscape architect, Andrew Jackson Downing recognized the potential for designing places in the city for the sole purpose of recreation. Downing called Mount Auburn the "Athens of New England" and exclaimed "no sooner was attention generally roused to the charms of this First American Cemetery, than the idea took the public mind by storm."<sup>39</sup> Downing wrote an article in *The Horticulturist* in 1849:

The great attraction of these cemeteries, to the mass of the community, is not in the fact that they are burial places, or solemn places of meditation for the friends of the deceased, or striking exhibitions of monumental sculpture, though all these have their influence. All these might be realized in a burial ground, planted with straight lines of willows, and sombre [sic] acres of green. The true secret of the attraction lies in the natural beauty of the sites and in the tasteful and harmonious embellishments of these sites by art.<sup>40</sup>

Joseph Story describes this relationship between the urban and the rural in his consecration address for Mount Auburn Cemetery in 1831:

The 'magnificence of nature' in the rural cemetery would be more comforting to the mourner than the 'noisy press of business' surrounding a city churchyard. ... There is, therefore, within our reach, every variety of natural and artificial scenery. ... We stand, as it were, upon the borders of two worlds; and the mood of our minds may be, we may gather lessons of profound wisdom by contrasting the one with the other.<sup>41</sup>

Dr. Elisha Huntington, a mayor of industrial Lowell, Massachusetts, proposed public parks in 1845: "We have grown up to a city of twenty-six or seven thousand inhabitants, and with a fair prospect of increasing numbers we are being hemmed in by walls of brick and mortar, shutting out the pure air of heaven. ..." <sup>42</sup> He recommended the establishment of a "public mall or promenade" in the center of the city. "The value of such, I will not say luxury, but such a necessary of life, as free, open public grounds, is incalculable, we cannot estimate it."<sup>43</sup>

According to the authors and historians reviewed, there are many reasons for the success of the rural cemetery movement in the United States. The authors have described utilitarian necessity, romantic views of death and mourning, and a desire to return to a pastoral setting as factors. Social and cultural views of death were changing. Romanticism was expressed in art and in landscapes. Scholars have identified rural cemeteries as an expression of a new romantic view of nature and the city in America. Thomas Bender attributes the cemetery's popularity to mid-nineteenth century American ideas about the relation of cityscape and landscape in an urbanizing society: the need to

preserve, improve, and enclose nature. The rural cemetery movement led social reformers and landscape architects of the time to realize the importance of nature in the city, and therefore was essential to the urban parks movement that changed the shape of cities.

### Oakwood Cemetery

Oakwood Cemetery in Syracuse, New York was constructed in 1859, twenty-eight years after the first rural cemetery, Mount Auburn, was developed. The design of Oakwood was influenced not only by Mount Auburn in Massachusetts, but by the rural cemeteries built in other major cities of the Northeast. Oakwood Cemetery continued the example of the rural cemetery movement and addressed both social and physical characteristics that defined the new cemetery type. Concerns such as utilitarian issues, new ideas about death, and romantic landscape styles were addressed in the rural cemetery for Syracuse.



## CHAPTER TWO

### A Rural Cemetery for Syracuse

Oakwood Cemetery was founded at a time when the city of Syracuse was experiencing rapid growth and expansion. Eleven years after the city was incorporated in 1848, a group of city leaders recognized both the need and the desire for a rural cemetery: the need to accommodate the rapidly increasing population, and the desire to possess a rural cemetery that would rival those of other eastern cities such as Mount Auburn in Cambridge (1831) or Laurel Hill in Philadelphia (1838).<sup>44</sup>

The presence of salt deposits proved to be the natural resource that established Syracuse as a viable nineteenth century city, and later both the city's central location and its role as a transportation center supported further growth and economic development. Salt production, as the first major industry, attracted many settlers to the area in the late 1700s. Settlers with agricultural interests were attracted by the rich highlands south of Onondaga Lake.<sup>45</sup> Farmers and salt workers settled both in Syracuse and in outlying villages such as Geddes, Salina, Onondaga Hill, and Jamesville. Early growth in the eighteenth century was slow and dispersed due primarily to transportation difficulties.<sup>46</sup>

The construction of the Erie Canal in 1819 provided a solution to the transportation problems in the immediate area and provided a badly needed export route for commerce. When the entire length of the canal opened in 1825, Syracuse was connected to points east to the Hudson River and to points west to Lake Erie. The completion of the canal also caused the first great population explosion in the area; in 1830 the city had a population of 2,565 persons.<sup>47</sup> This transportation development made Syracuse a natural hub for commerce and travel.<sup>48</sup> Many canal workers stayed on to join the flourishing salt industry. For at least fifteen years the canal was the fastest, most convenient mode of transportation for settlers heading west. "Many decided to end their journey prematurely in the new and thriving metropolis, and the village continued to grow."<sup>49</sup> The salt industry reached its peak in the 1860s, and Syracuse's population continued to grow from 2,565 persons in 1830 to 22,271 in 1850. Then the population more than doubled in a span of thirty years, rising from 22,271 in 1850 to 51,792 in 1880. It was in the 1850s, in the midst of this rapid development, that Syracuse's leading citizens first attempted to establish a rural cemetery for the city.

The men who founded Oakwood Cemetery held prominent positions in the city. As bankers and businessmen they saw themselves as civic leaders whose professed purpose for the development

of the cemetery was for the good of the general public and the future welfare of the city. In H. P. Smith's, *A History of Oakwood*, the dedication address describes these sentiments: "Oakwood Cemetery is to-day, and ever will be, in the fullest sense a public institution, founded for the public welfare, and is wholly interconnected without any purpose whatever of profit or gain to anyone.<sup>50</sup> The rural cemetery was thought to offer citizens a retreat from the city and possibly offer solutions<sup>to</sup> urban problems.

In their search for solutions, city fathers in Syracuse and elsewhere were influenced both by the legacy of America's founders, who believed that the American continent could be progressively improved for society's benefit, and by a growing nostalgia for the vanishing rural landscape, two themes that came together in the development of and devotion to a picturesque aesthetic and its principal tenet: that natural scenery had a salubrious impact on the mind.<sup>51</sup>

Meetings were first held in 1852 to discuss the possibility of founding a rural cemetery. The search for a location concluded in the unanimous choice of approximately eighty-two acres located just south of the city limits as the most suitable in the area (see figure 2.1). For unknown reasons further planning and negotiation were postponed for several years.

When discussions began again in 1857 to acquire the selected land, a poor economic climate forced the businessmen to put the proposition aside once again. The civic leaders continued to express the need for a rural cemetery, and the city was embarrassed by its failure to establish a cemetery. A newspaper editorial stated: "Mortified are we that our city cannot boast of a Rural Cemetery."<sup>52</sup> By this time, rural cemeteries were established in many major cities: Mount Auburn, Cambridge, Massachusetts (1831), Laurel Hill, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (1838), Greenwood, Brooklyn, New York (1838), Mount Hope, Rochester, New York (1838), and Spring Grove Cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio (1846) are a few examples.

Elias Leavenworth (1803-1887), a lawyer, city mayor, and one-term congressman, and Hamilton White (1807-1865), a prominent Syracuse banker led the final successful effort in 1858 which resulted in the founding of an official cemetery association in August of 1859, thus clearing the way for the design and construction of the cemetery. In addition to Elias Leavenworth and Hamilton White the original twelve trustees included other businessmen and civic leaders: J. P. Haskins (1812-1873), the originator of the Onondaga Salt Company and president of Morris Run Coal Mine, John Crouse (1802-1889) a businessman and banker, John Wilkinson (1798-1862) a lawyer and president of Syracuse Water Works, Archibald C. Powell (1813-1884), a prominent merchant and trustee of Onondaga County Savings Bank, Austin Myers (1815-1870), a businessman and owner of a successful canal boat operation, Allen Munroe (1819-1884), the director of the Gas Light Company and a State Senator in 1859, Timothy R. Porter (1809-1879), a salt manufacturer and businessman, Robert Wynkoop (no dates found), a successful bookseller, J. Dean Hawley (1821-1913), a merchant

and trustee of the Onondaga County Savings Bank, and Thomas G. Alvord (1810-1897) a lawyer, manufacturer and state legislator.<sup>53</sup>

The Oakwood Cemetery Minute Books record the proceedings of the first official meeting of the Oakwood Cemetery Association Trustees on September 15, 1859. The trustee secretary, Allen Munroe, transcribed the discussion regarding the selection of "an engineer" to lay out the grounds:

a motion was made to ballot for an engineer to lay out and map the cemetery grounds. On counting the ballots Mr. Cleveland secured five votes and Mr. Daniels secured four votes, a general conversation was had over the employment of an engineer and landscape gardener to lay out the cemetery without coming to a decision the board adjourned to 9 O'clock [sic] Saturday morning.<sup>54</sup>

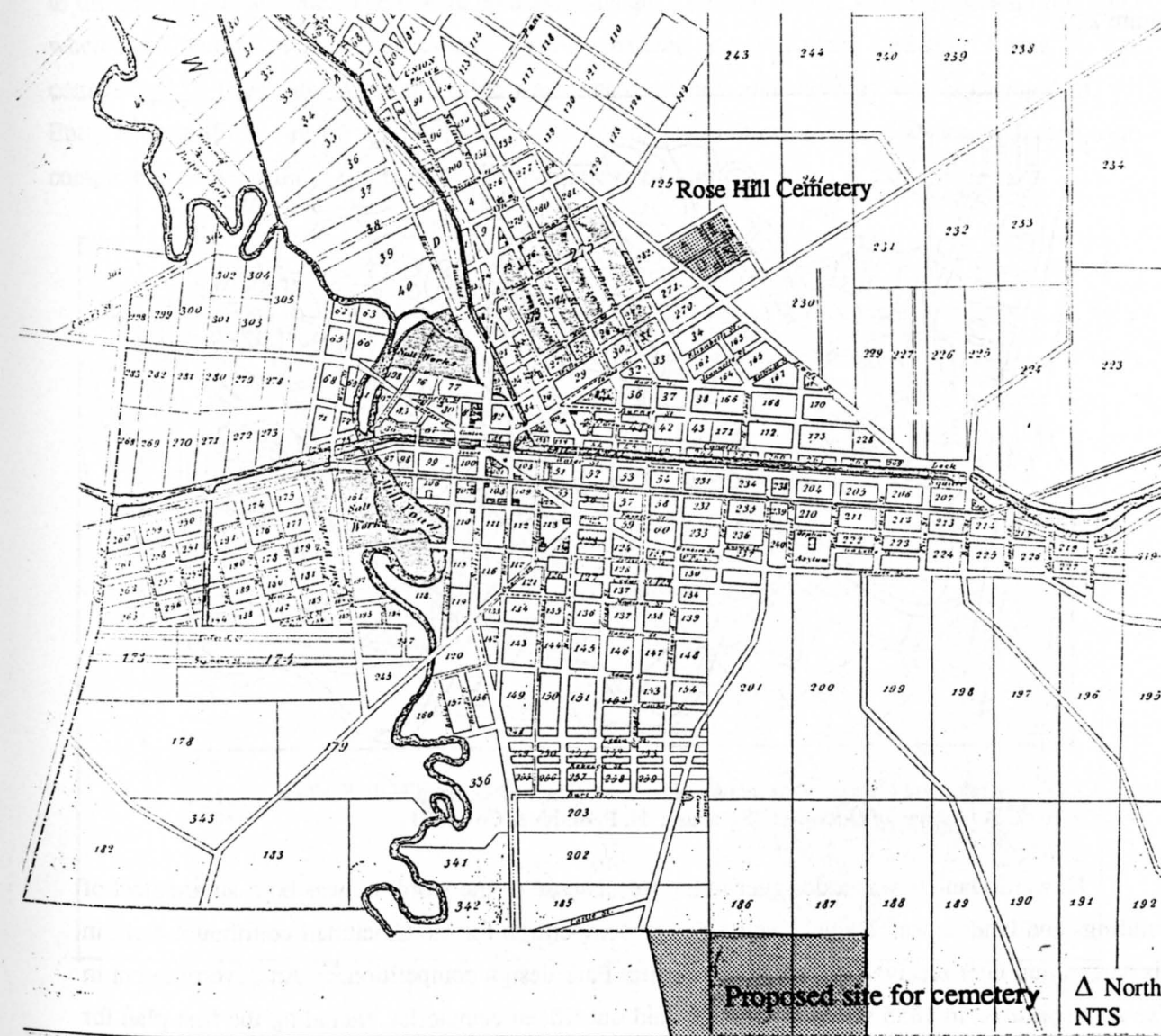
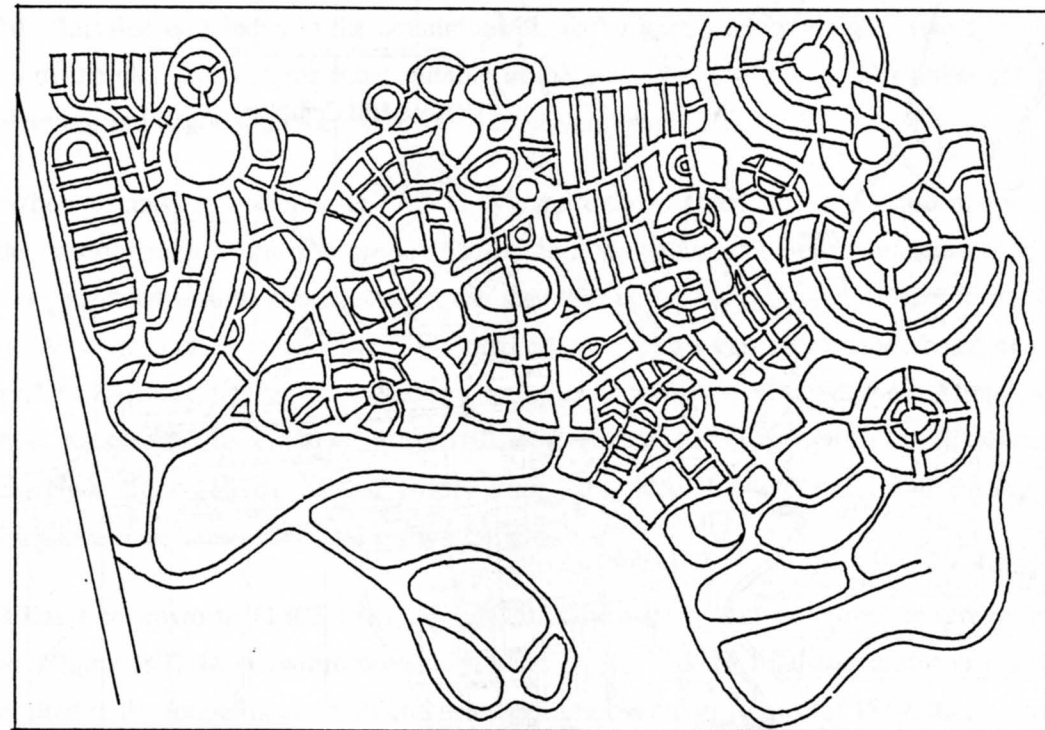


Figure 2.1

Proposed site for Syracuse's rural cemetery, 1848 (*City Map of Syracuse, New York*, Onondaga Historical Association).



No documentation explains the reasons why Howard Daniels and H. W. S. Cleveland were considered for the job. Each, as a professional landscape gardener, had published articles and advertisements in *The Horticulturist*, and each had designed several cemeteries. Elias Leavenworth, the elected President of the Trustees, was an avid gardener and also interested in horticulture. It is probable that it was his informed decision to consider these two landscape gardeners. With no explanation of the reasoning behind their decision, the trustees selected Howard Daniels to lay out their cemetery. At the meeting on October 1, 1859, there was a motion to "... employ Howard Daniels as Landscape Gardener and other such laborers as are necessary in the laying out and improving the cemetery."<sup>55</sup> Daniels is responsible for the design of the main portion of the cemetery which is illustrated in the 1871 drawing found in H. P. Smith's, *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (see figure 2.2).



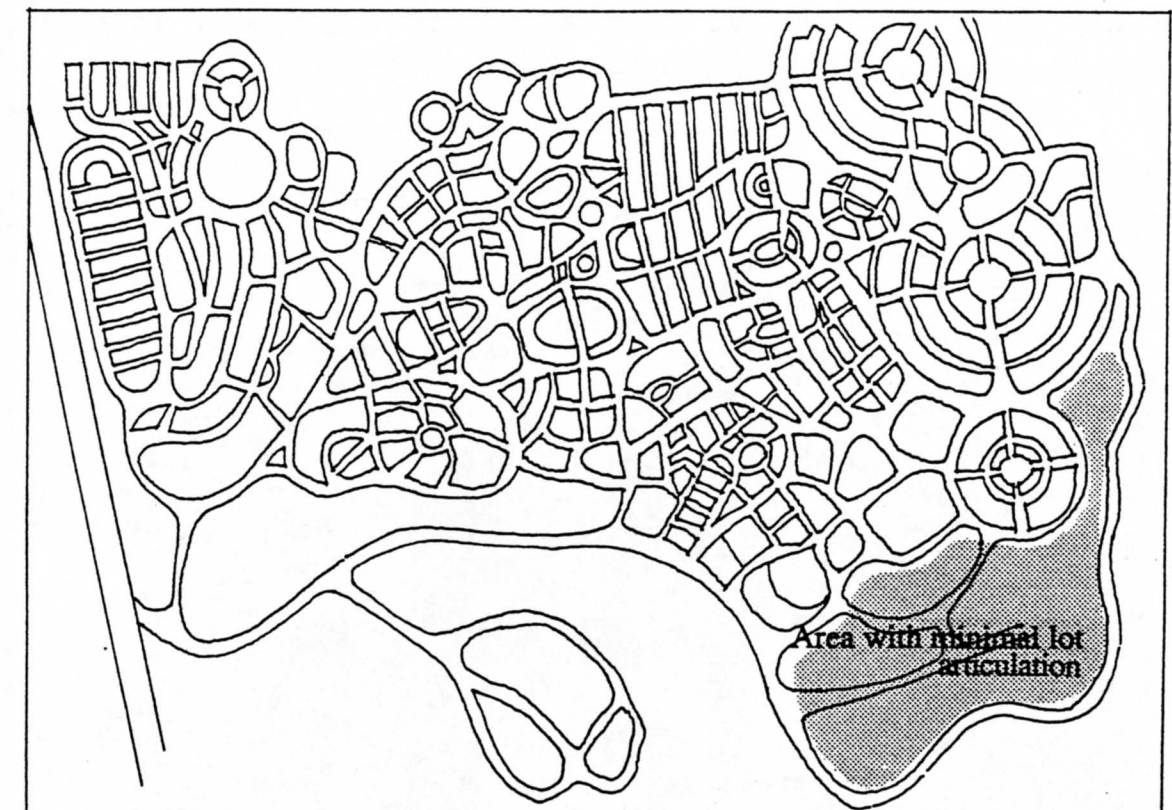
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Figure 2.2 Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, New York (Day, 1993, from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871).

Howard Daniels was a designer in the truest sense of the word; he was both an architect of buildings and landscapes. Daniels won a design competition for the Cincinnati courthouse early in his career, and later received honors in the Central Park design competition.<sup>56</sup> An advertisement in *The Horticulturist* in 1855 stated that he had laid out fifteen cemeteries, including the first plan for Spring Grove in Cincinnati (later redesigned by Alfred Strauch in the "garden style") and Brookside in Watertown, New York. His obituary, published in *The Horticulturist* in 1864, described him as a man who "possessed both taste and skill."<sup>57</sup>

It is unclear when Daniels's work was completed in Syracuse. He was called back in April of 1860 to handle requests for new lots in specific locations. Although there is no record of which lots he laid out, an examination of the 1871 map illustrates an area that is less clearly defined than the others (see figure 2.3). The portions east of Crescent Avenue appear to be less articulated than the core of the cemetery to the west, and therefore, it is possible that these areas were developed at the later visit.

The cemetery had one major period of development. Starting in 1879, with the construction of the Chapel on Midland Avenue, until 1902, with the construction of the 1902 Gate and Bridge, the Office, and the Greenhouse, a twenty five year period represents a time of improvement and addition to the cemetery landscape. There were no major changes to the landscape after this period until 1945 when the Greenhouse was demolished. Further changes occurred when Interstate Route 81 was constructed in 1964, and when the ridge was removed from, and the road was constructed in, the Entry Area in 1983. The turn of the century, after the major additions to the cemetery landscape were complete, represents the major period in the cemetery's history.



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Figure 2.3 Areas where Daniels could have done additional work in 1860 (Day, 1993, from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).



## Environmental Context

The environmental context describes the general influences affecting the historic landscape. The environmental context is defined as the larger physical and visual context which contains or encompasses the historic landscape. The natural context is defined by such factors as topography, predominant vegetation, and water resources.

**Natural:** The site for the rural cemetery was chosen by the founding members for its location, unique both in its relation to the city and also in its relation to the natural features. While both were important to the general philosophy of the rural cemetery, the site's relation to natural features such as topography, lakes and streams, and vegetation is discussed in the natural section of environmental context and the site's relation to the city is discussed in the socio-cultural section of environmental context.

To gain an understanding for the context of the cultural landscape it is important to examine the site and its relationship to its surroundings. This is especially important for understanding a rural cemetery landscape; the context is integral to its meaning and purpose. The boundaries of the environmental context for the eighty-two acre parcel circle the city of Syracuse and include Onondaga Lake and Onondaga Valley (see figure 2.4).

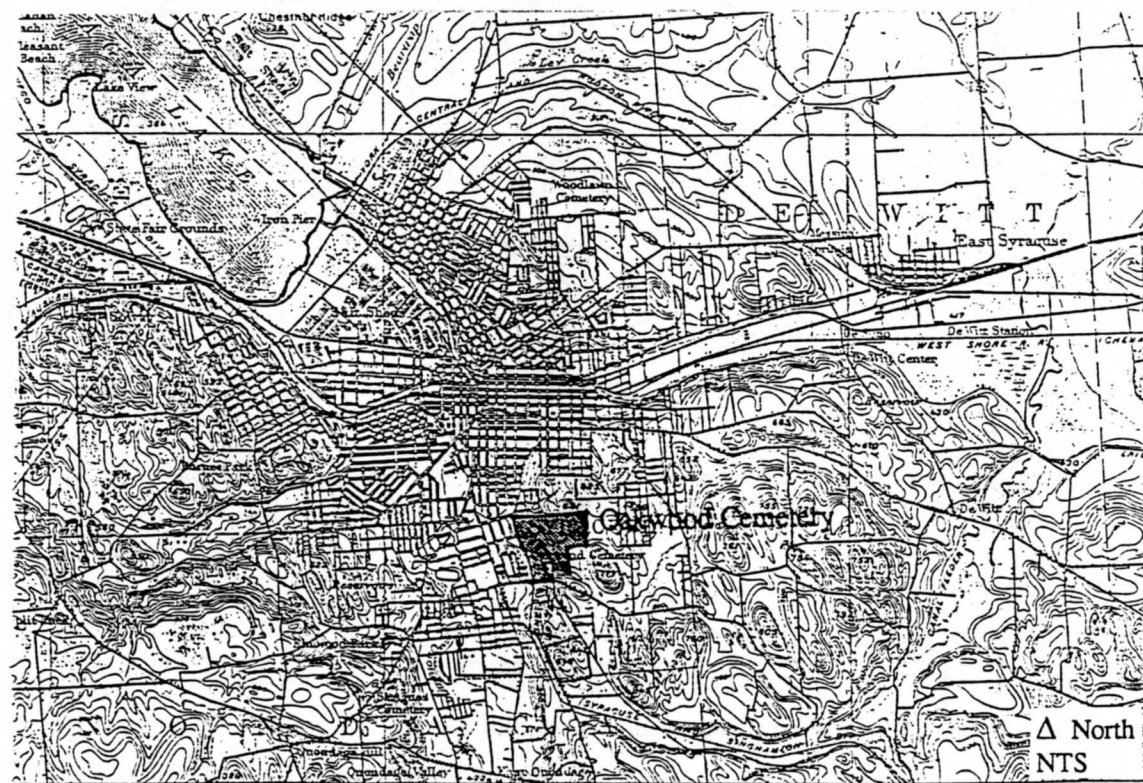


Figure 2.4 Environmental context of Oakwood Cemetery (1893 Topographic Map, Onondaga Historical Association).

The natural context of the proposed site for the rural cemetery consists of a variety of natural features both outside and inside the cemetery boundaries. Topography, lakes and streams, and vegetation are aspects of the environment that contribute to the site's selection. The topography of the larger environmental context creates a variety of views which were of utmost importance to the philosophy of the rural cemetery. The site is located at a high point overlooking the low lying land surrounding Onondaga Lake, five miles to the north. The area north of the site sloped down to the north to the lake and the area west of the site sloped down to Onondaga Valley and Onondaga Creek. The lake was the natural feature that became the focal point of views from the northern boundary of the cemetery. Onondaga Hill to the west was the ideal background for sunset views from the west ridge of the cemetery (see figure 2.5). The general topography of the environmental context placed the proposed site for Oakwood in a position to command views of the surrounding landscape to the north and west. The distinctly different topography to the east of the site contributed to the uniqueness of the cemetery context.

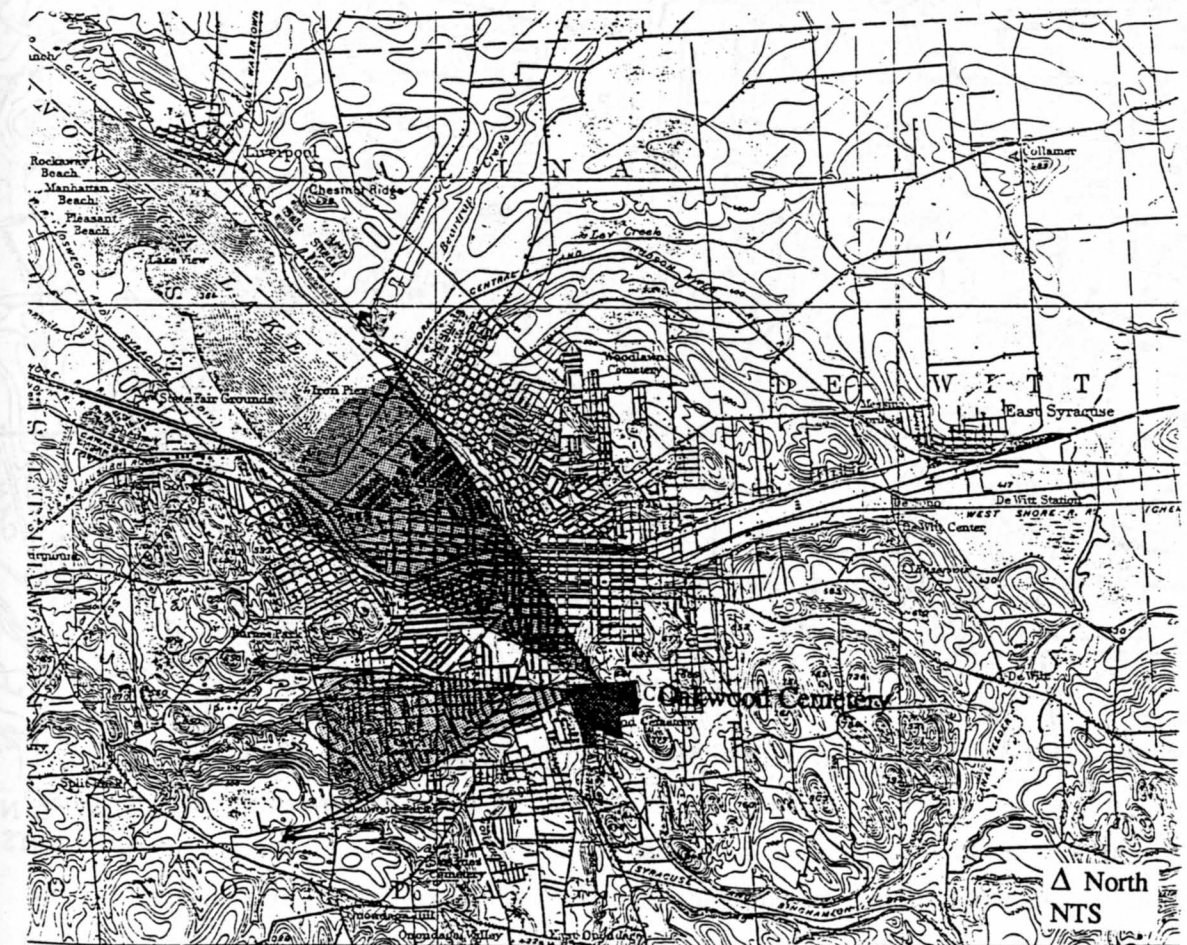


Figure 2.5 Views of surrounding natural features provided by location of site (1893 Topographic Map, Onondaga Historical Association).



The area directly east of the site is characterized by teaspoon shaped hills called drumlins. These parallel glacial landforms are oriented generally north-south and extend into the boundaries of the proposed site (see figure 2.6). The undulating landforms created a sylvan character that was desired for a rural cemetery. The elongated hills located within the cemetery boundaries provided natural high points that allowed the visitor to have views to the surrounding farms and natural features such as Onondaga Lake, Onondaga Valley, and Onondaga Hill.

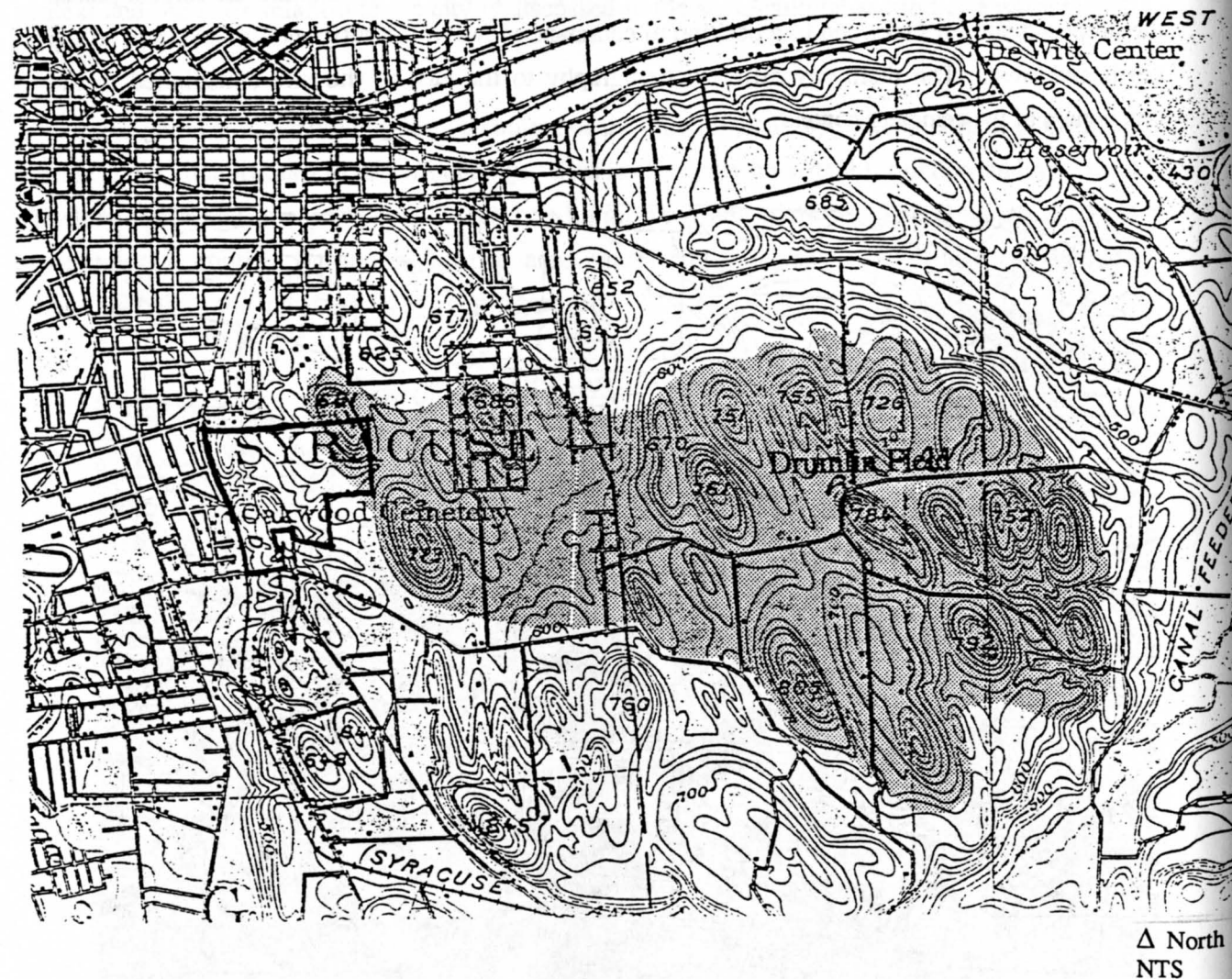


Figure 2.6 Topography of area to the east of the site characterized by glacial landforms (1893 Topographical Map, Onondaga Historical Association).

Natural water features located outside the cemetery boundary such as Onondaga Lake and Onondaga Creek were assets to the proposed site. The lake was a major design feature of the cemetery. It was used as a focal point for views from the high points of the northern boundary of the cemetery. H. P. Smith describes the view from Lake View Avenue in his book, *A History of Oakwood*: "... and beyond, in the dim haze, the blue lake sleeps in the lap of surrounding hills."<sup>58</sup>

**Socio-Cultural:** The socio-cultural environmental context describes the general human overlay on the physical form of the surrounding environment that has or does directly affect the historic landscape and the political jurisdiction of the historic landscape. The rural cemetery movement and the functional needs for a new cemetery are the human overlays that were responsible for the development of the historic landscape.

The decision to construct a rural cemetery for the city of Syracuse was a response to both functional needs and Romantic ideals. In the early 1850s the newly incorporated city of Syracuse (1848) found its principal graveyard, Rose Hill (established in 1841) too small to fill the community's needs (see figure 2.1). The small, rectangular site was laid out in straight rows (see figure 2.7). While a rural cemetery located outside the city center would provide enough land to accommodate the growing population, it also could offer a Romantic landscape to meet the desires of the community to escape the industrial city.

The Romantic attitudes and a new appreciation of nature that had become popular in the nineteenth century spurred the desire for a new kind of burial ground for the city. *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* details the anti-urban sentiment that was expressed as a result of Romanticism: "Hither, the busy, struggling world will often come to enjoy, for a time, the balmy breath of Heaven--to commune with nature in her loveliest forms, and in these secluded retreats to forget for an hour the toils and cares of life."<sup>59</sup> According to the philosophy of the rural cemetery, the experience of nature had a stronger effect and meaning if it were compared and contrasted to the city. Thus, views of the city were desired so that one could view the growth of industrialization below. The straight lines of the street and the masses of buildings would emphasize the sylvan, curvilinear character of the rural cemetery.

In 1859 twenty acres of the cemetery were located in the town of Onondaga, Onondaga County, and 72.7 acres were located in the city of Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York (see figure 2.8). The site was located one and one half miles outside the business center of the city. In keeping with the philosophy of the rural cemetery movement, the cemetery was located a distance from the busy city streets in order to provide a quiet enclave from which to view the rapidly growing city.





Figure 2.7 Historic view of Rose Hill illustrating the order of the city cemetery, no date (K. Day collection).

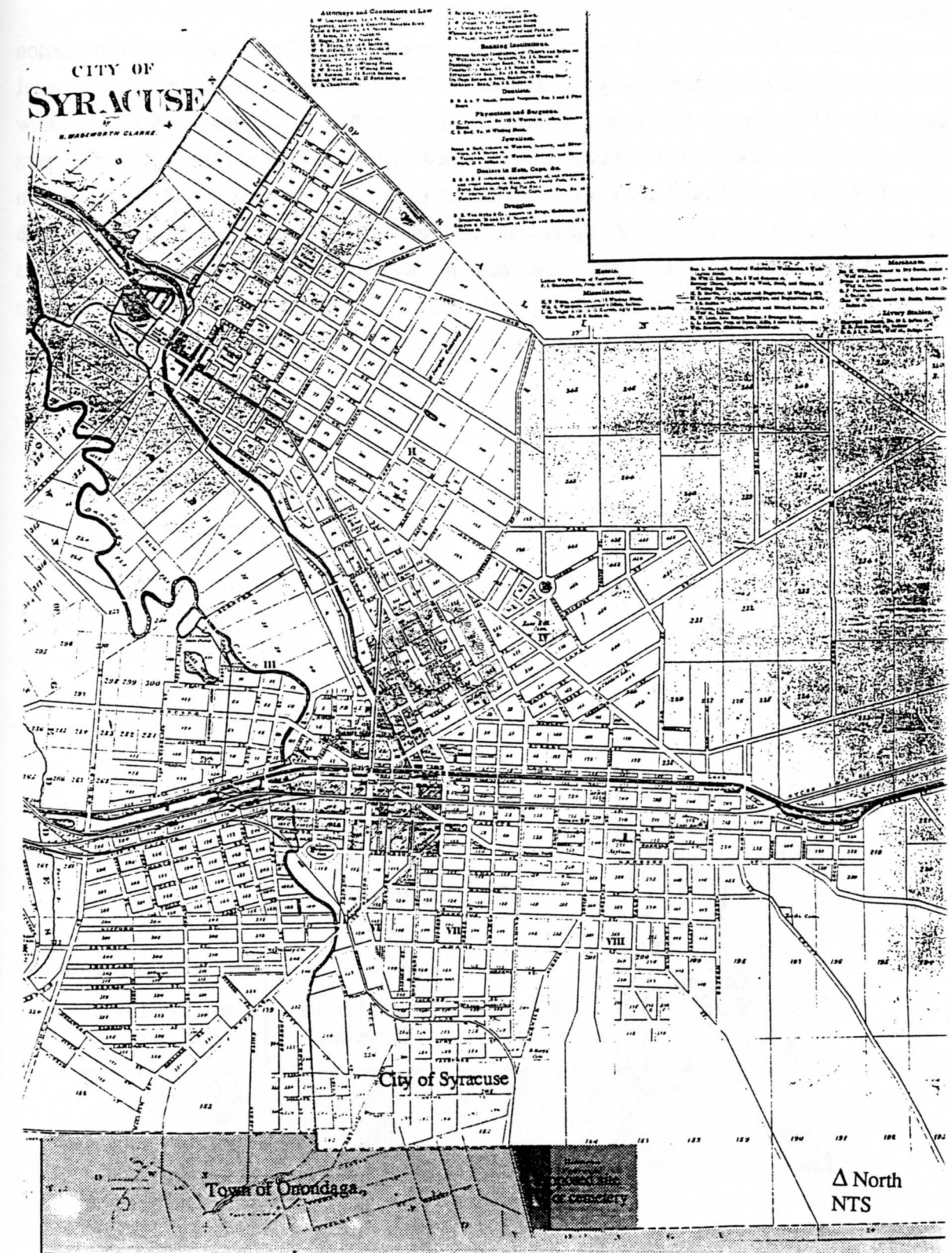


Figure 2.8 Boundaries of the city of Syracuse and town of Onondaga, 1848 (City Map of Syracuse, 1860, Onondaga Historical Association).

### Setting

The location of the rural cemetery was of utmost importance. Following the example of rural cemeteries elsewhere and the philosophy that the contrast of the natural and the urban was important, Oakwood's founders searched for a spot that overlooked the city. The original parcels chosen by the founders included both woodland and cleared land owned by C. A. Baker and Henry Baker, local farmers. In August of 1859, after months of negotiations, twenty acres on the east end of Onondaga Farm Lot 77 were purchased from C. A. Baker at the price of \$9,500 (see figure 2.9).<sup>60</sup> The Meeting Minutes of the Trustees state that \$200 was reserved to pay for a road through Mr. Colvin's land. In the same year, 72 79/100 acres were purchased on the south end of farm lots 186 and 187 from Mr. Henry Raynor. The price was \$15,000 and, again, the minutes state that \$200 was reserved for a road through Mr. Colvin's land.<sup>61</sup>

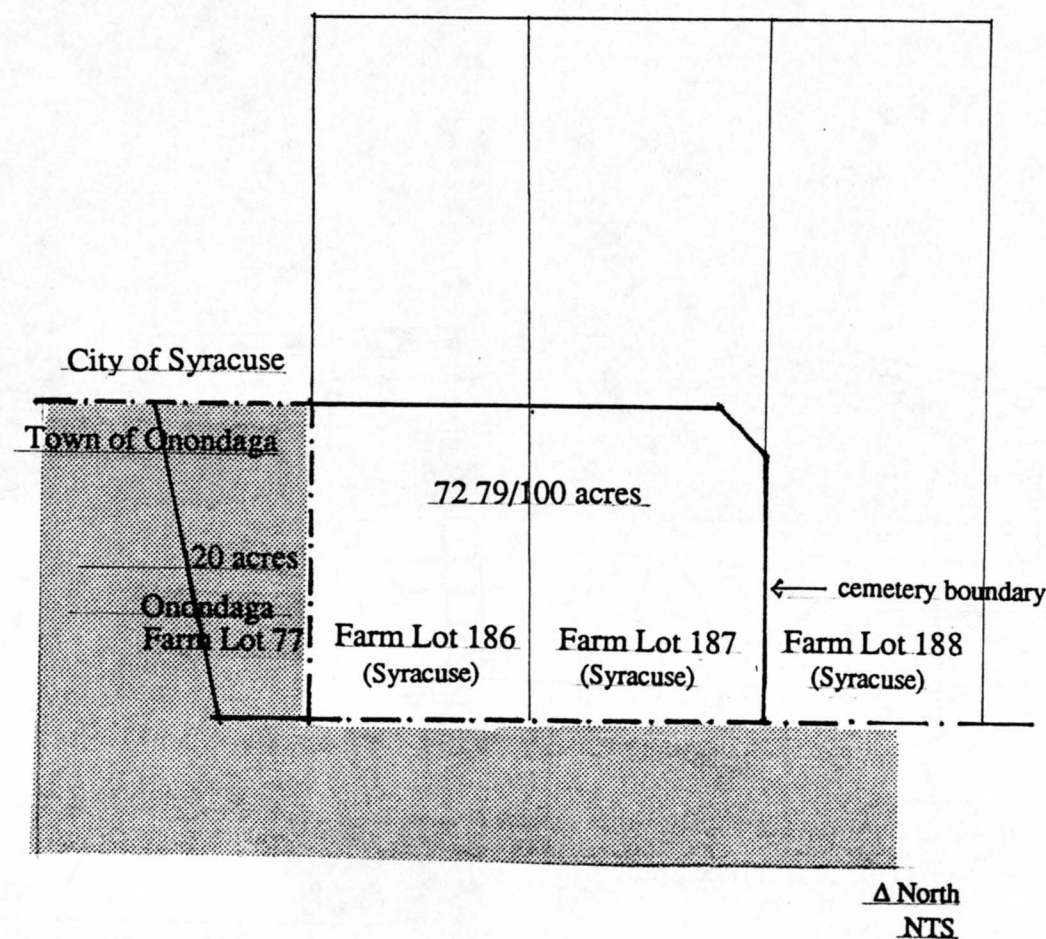


Figure 2.9 Land acquired in August, 1859 (Day, 1993).

Once the land was selected, negotiations began to move the Jamesville Plankroad that ran north-south through the property. The plankroad connected Syracuse south to the village of Jamesville. Elias Leavenworth and Hamilton White led the group through one year of negotiations with the Plankroad Stockholders, Supervisors, Commissioners of Highways, and private individuals in order to relocate the road to the west through Mr. Colvin's land. The exact location of both the original and the relocated Jamesville Plankroad is not known. The available map from 1854 is difficult to read (see Appendix: I Town of Onondaga Map, 1854). The approximated cemetery boundaries and the location of the original Jamesville Plankroad have been estimated from the existing documentation (see figure 2.10).

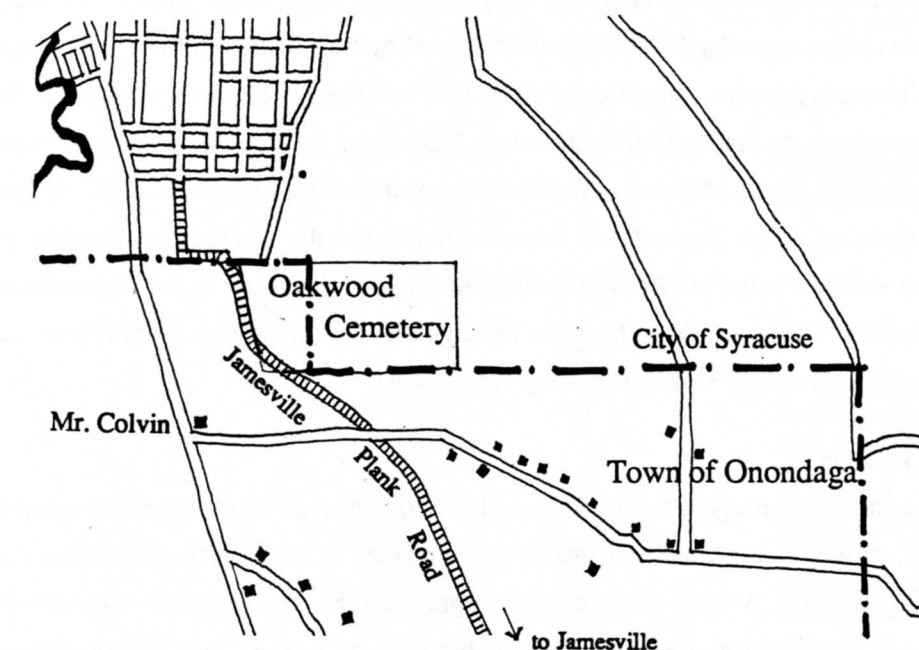


Figure 2.10 Approximate location of Jamesville Plankroad (Day, 1993, from Onondaga Town Map, 1854).



In the following years the Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery would continue to add parcels of land to the cemetery. The next recorded land purchase was ten years later on June 3, 1869. The Minutes record that the board purchased eighteen acres of land adjoining Oakwood from Mr. Richard Appleby for \$7,000 (Onondaga Farm Lot 78). On July 17, 1869 the board authorized the purchase of 8 1/5 acres of land to be purchased from Mr. J. Park at \$500 per acre (\$4,100.00) (Onondaga Farm Lot 77). The total purchases in 1869 recorded in the minutes was \$11,000. The Expenditures Sheet listed the total for 1869 as \$12,499.18. This leaves \$1,399.18 unaccounted for (see figure 2.11 Land Acquisition Map).

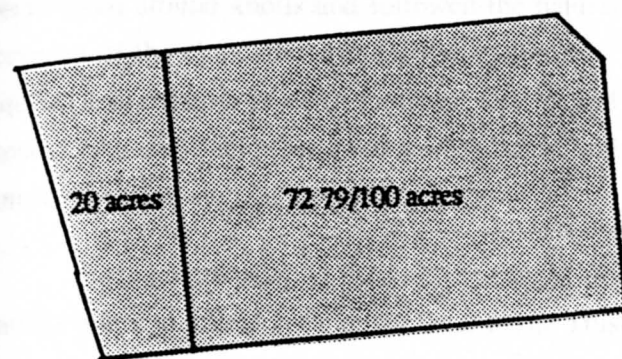
In the year 1870 there was no recorded land purchase in the Trustees Minutes., but the Expenditures Sheet recorded a total of \$1,600 for real estate purchases. In 1871 there is no record of a purchase. In 1872, \$775 was recorded for land purchase in the Expenditures Sheet, but there is no mention of purchasing land in the Meeting Minutes. The Trustee's Meeting Minutes do however discuss other real estate ventures of the board, so this may account for the Expenditures Sheet totals. On March 6, 1871 the executive committee approved the purchase of a gravel pit from C. A. Baker. In 1873, the Expenditures Sheet recorded \$9,306.90 spent on real estate. Although there is no record of this purchase in the Trustees minutes, a deed shows that 19.8 acres of lot 188 was purchased. The next record of land purchase on the Expenditures Sheet was \$255 spent on real estate in 1876. There is no mention of land purchase in the Minutes. The next record of land purchase was \$667.50 spent in 1881. There is no mention of this expenditure in the Minutes, but the deed stated that this was spent on one acre at the southern edge of Oakwood. In 1884 \$4,250 was listed in the Expenditures Sheet and in the Minutes for 14 acres on Onondaga Lot 78. In 1889, \$1,710.80 was spent to purchase 4 acres in lot 78 (see figure 2.11, Land Acquisition Map 1859-1889).

### Natural Systems and Features

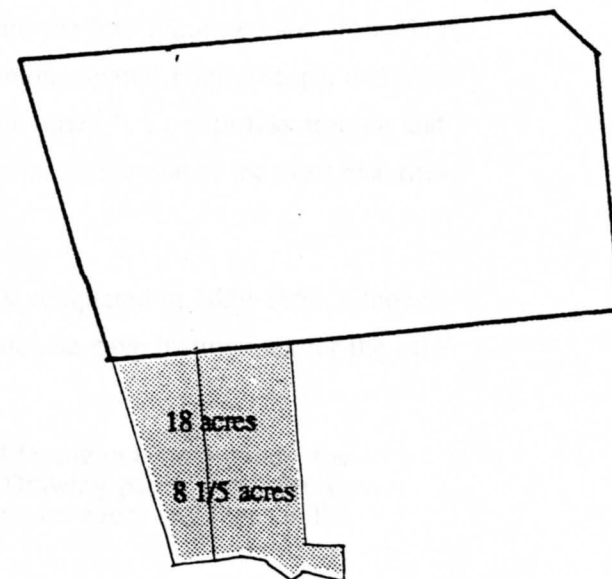
The Romantic aesthetic of rough terrain, old growth woodlands and deep ravines attracted the cemetery founders to the proposed site which possessed an abundance of unique natural features such as woodlands and curving ravines. A stand of oaks was recognized to be a key feature of the selected land. A period newspaper account described a grove along the Jamesville Plankroad.<sup>62</sup> The designer, Howard Daniels, was hired to "lay out and map" the cemetery in a way that would manipulate its natural, "sylvan" features to create a picturesque resting place for the citizens of Syracuse.

One example of Daniels's response to and manipulation of the existing landscape is the circulation system. The design of the circulation and the integrated drainage system demonstrates the complexity of the design and Daniels's attention to the natural features of the site such as landform and drainage. The paths of existing ravines and gullies that made up the natural drainage system were used for a large extent of the circulation system. Roads were combined with cobblestone gutters to

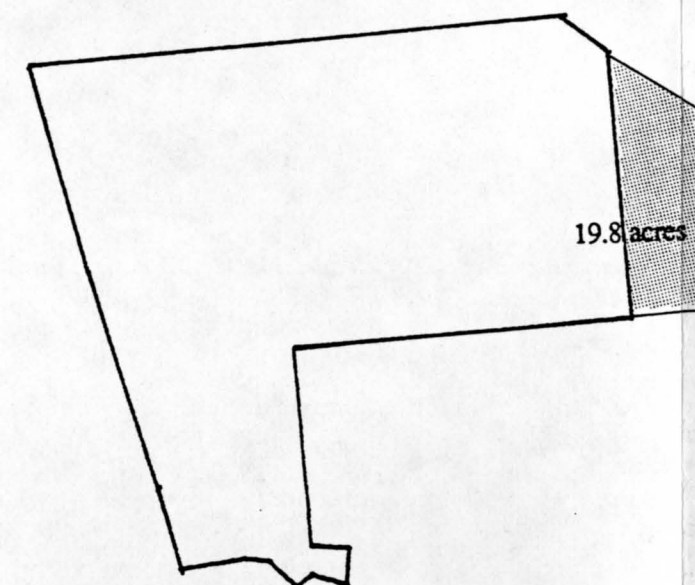
1859



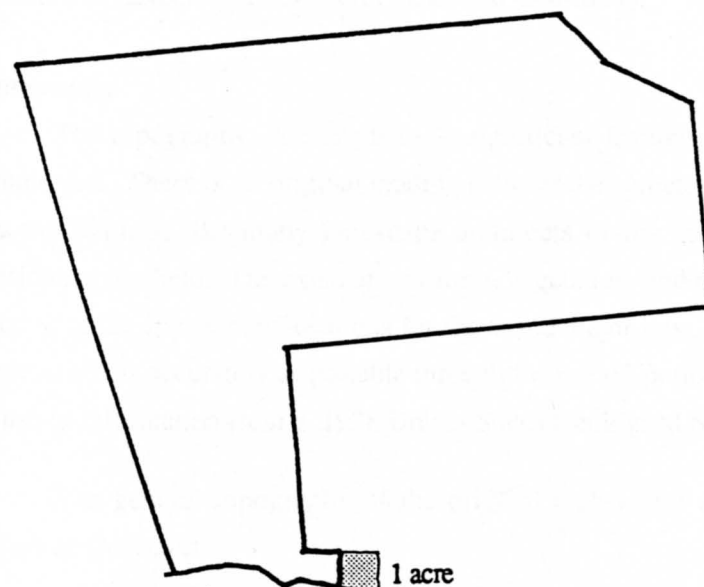
1869



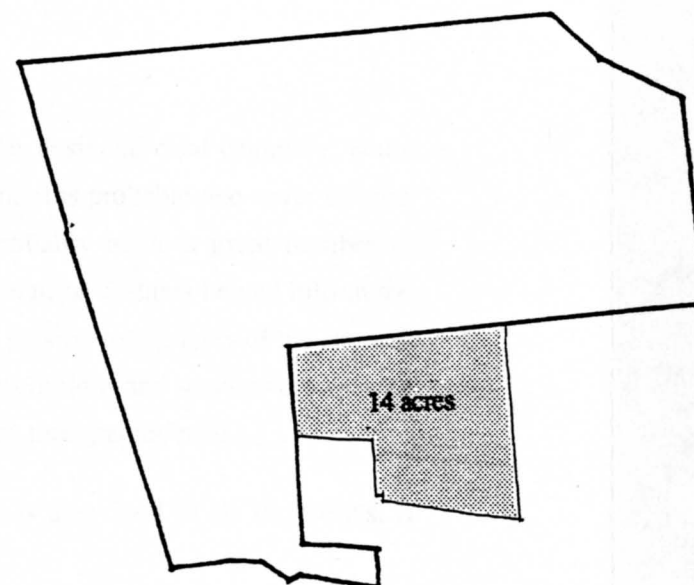
1873



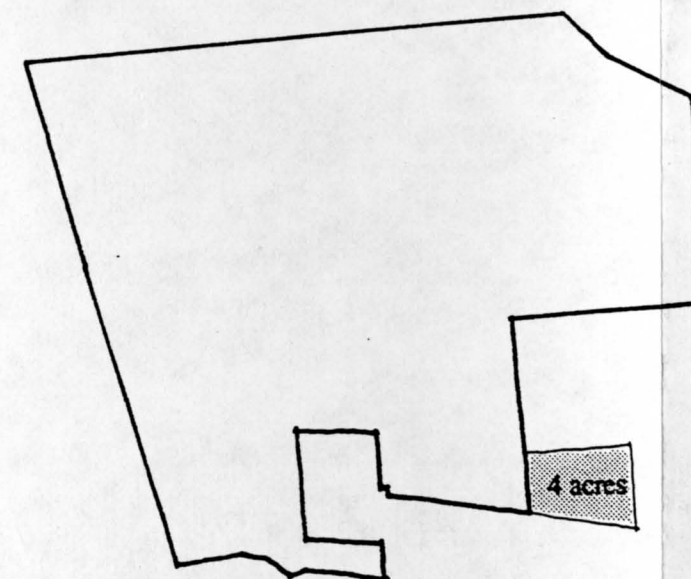
1881



1884



1889



North Δ  
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# Cultural Landscape Report OAKWOOD CEMETERY

Syracuse

New York

Prepared by:

Karen E. Day  
Faculty of Landscape Architecture  
State University of New York  
College of Environmental Science and Forestry  
Syracuse, New York

Key:



Parcel purchased by Trustees  
of Oakwood Cemetery

Sources:

Maltbie, Annie *Picturesque Oakwood: Its Past  
and Present Associations*. Syracuse: Fred S.  
Hills, Publisher, 1894.

Smith, H. P. *History of Oakwood Cemetery*.  
Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co. 1871.

Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery.  
*Meeting Minutes*.

Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery.  
*Expenditures Sheet*

Deeds

1964 Survey for Oakwood Cemetery  
Completed by Rudolf Norman P.E. and L.S.

## Land Acquisition Map

Map 1

Figure 2.11

carry water through the site. The curvilinear roads and paths followed the existing landforms; roads were carved around knolls and followed the natural gullies into the low lying ravines. Daniels's treatment of the circulation system was naturalistic, created unique spatial relationships, and also required less expense in earth moving. One period newspaper stated ". . . with less trouble and expense than are usually bestowed in such cases it might be converted into one of the most beautiful cemeteries which our country can boast."<sup>63</sup>

There are no existing field notes or maps from his work completed in 1859-1860, although Daniels refers to a field book in his letter to the Trustees in which he gave instructions for the care and order of the account books:

Laying out and Surveying Accounts: gives the cost of laying out the grounds, the survey and maps, the stakes, the bill of Stationary for Drawing paper, Field Books [etc.] at Mr. Wynkoop's- also two days works by laborers for every day I was in the Field- the same for Mr. F. E. Knight.<sup>64</sup>

The instructions refer to Mr. Robert Wynkoop, a trustee of the cemetery, and the owner of a stationary and book store in the city. It is not known who Mr. F. E. Knight is. Possibly Knight is one of the laborers who worked with Howard Daniels.

The Expenditures sheet for the cemetery lists a total of \$4,857.43 dollars spent on "Laying out and surveying" during 1859 and 1860; \$2,839.37 during 1859 and \$2,018.06 during 1860 (see Appendix B: Expenditure Sheet for Oakwood Cemetery).

## Topography

The topography, one of the most significant features of the designed rural cemetery, is not documented. There is no original grading plan for the cemetery, and it is probable one never existed. Howard Daniels, like many landscape architects of his day, probably made a great number of decisions in the field. The existing landform, vegetation, and other natural features helped inform the designer of the appropriate locations for roads and major lots. The general topography of the site will be presented as accurately as possible through the use of period descriptions and sections drawn with the use of information from a 1978 United States Geological Survey topographic map.

The general topography of the original eighty-two acres is described in H. P. Smith's, *A History of Oakwood*:

Generally speaking, the whole cemetery grounds face the west, rising with a gradual ascent to the eastern boundary on the hill-top, which completely overlooks the valley, City and lake. There is, however, a sharp, forest-covered ascent, to the southward from Midland Avenue, from the top of which the land stretches away to the south.<sup>65</sup>



The site is filled with varied landforms that were described in 1871 as "... gracefully rounded hillocks, sweeping slopes and spreading valleys, all gashed with deep ravines and long winding gullies."<sup>66</sup> These elongated hills and deep ravines are common landscape signatures of glacial activity in the Ontario Plain area of Central New York (see figure 2.6). In *A History of Oakwood*, the site is described as having "... a combination of attractions which, if anywhere equaled, are nowhere surpassed ... its surface diversified by the most beautiful and varied elevations and depressions, presenting views unrivaled in their extent and their magnificence. ..." <sup>67</sup> Howard Daniels's plan for the cemetery used roads, paths and lot layout to emphasize the unique landforms. "On the lower slopes and in the area of gentle hills between the landforms at the center of the property, the naturalistic landscape was preserved and enhanced with the greatest concentration of serpentine roads and paths, creating irregular, non-geometric landforms."<sup>68</sup> Dedication Valley, the central avenue that is located at the low point of the cemetery, provided a view of these irregular forms (see figure 2.12).



Figure 2.12 View of Dedication Valley illustrating irregular, non-geometric landforms, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).

On the hill tops, where the land was relatively level, the formal geometry of circles was employed (see figure 2.13).

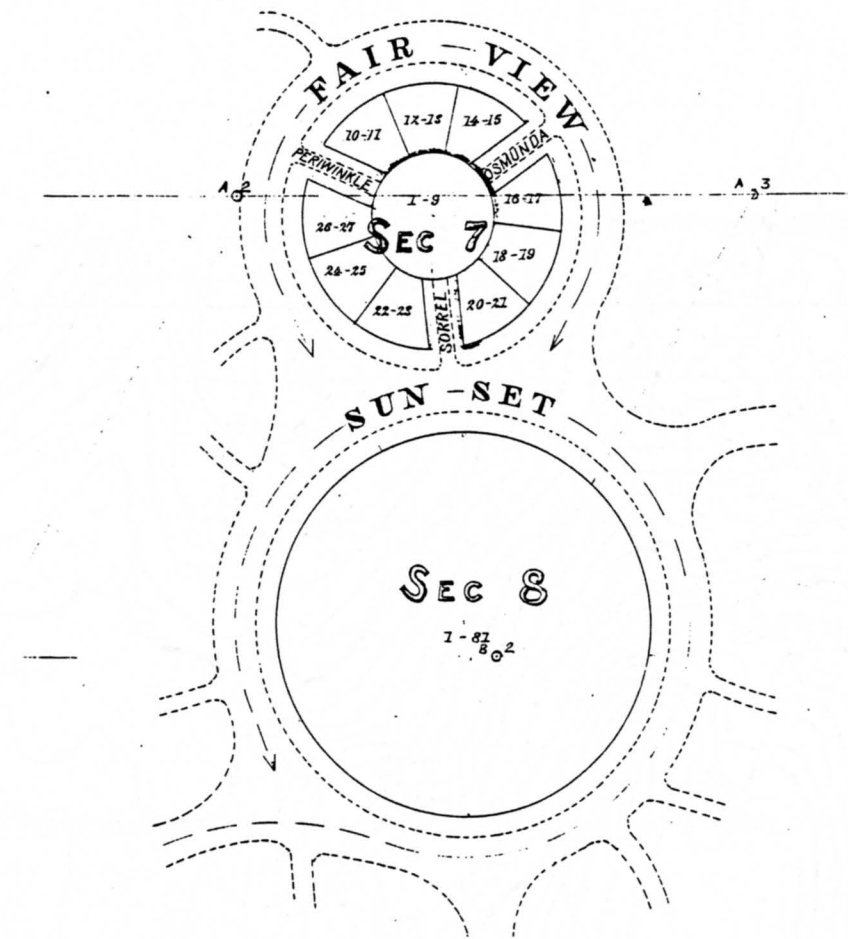


Figure 2.13 Plan of Sunset and Fair View Avenues, 1898 (*Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

The large drumlin that dominated the site was located to the northeast of the cemetery's north boundary. Although the drumlin was not located within the cemetery boundaries it was the high point of the immediate surroundings at an elevation of 700 feet (see figure 2.14).<sup>69</sup> The second major drumlin was located to the south of the original parcel. At its high point of 526 feet, it sloped steeply down towards Midland Avenue and provided a strong feeling of enclosure to the site (see figures 2.15 and 2.16). Midland Avenue wrapped around the steep side of the drumlin. Another high point provided the best view of the city. Located at the northernmost border of the original parcel at an elevation of 500 feet, it was located at the top of the ridge outside the eastern boundary of the cemetery. The original parcel itself was crossed with smaller scale ravines that drained the hillside into the Onondaga Valley to the west. Each ravine was separated by rounded hills at elevations of approximately twenty-five feet. The original cemetery parcel had an average elevation of 500 feet, 100 feet above the city of Syracuse.

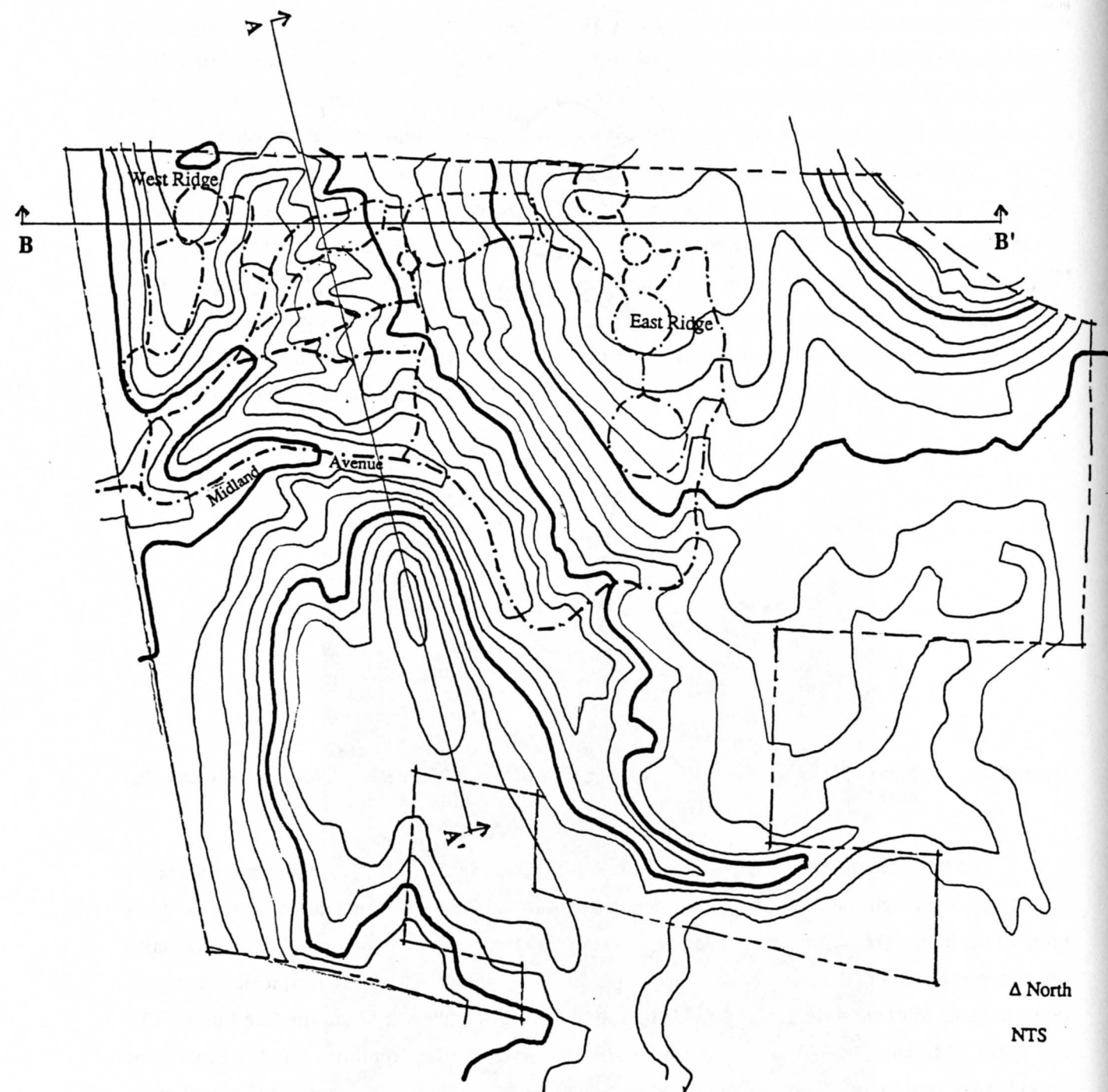


Figure 2.14 Topography of Oakwood Cemetery (Day, 1994, from United States Geological Survey, Syracuse West, 1978).

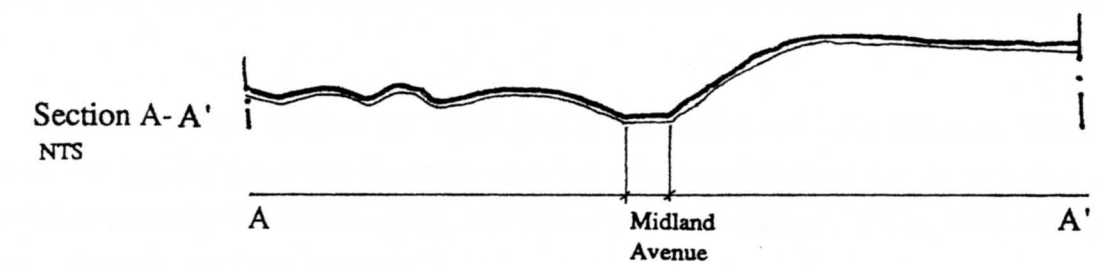


Figure 2.15 North-south section through cemetery illustrating general landform (Day, 1993).

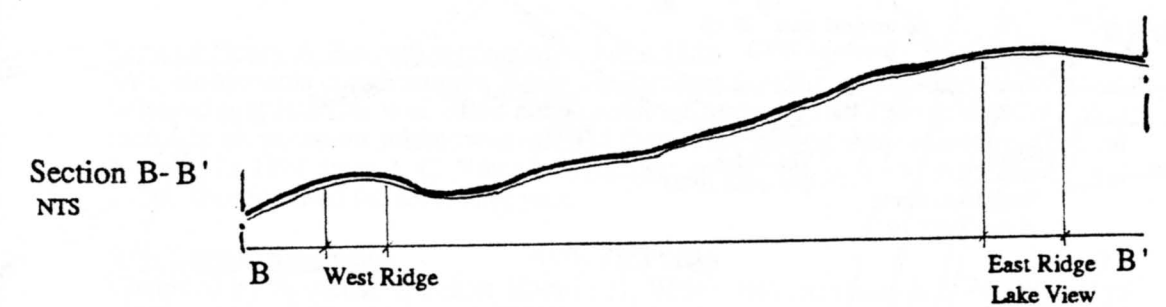


Figure 2.16 East-west section through cemetery illustrating general landform (Day, 1993).



### Buildings and Structures

Buildings and structures in the cemetery consist of the original Gate and Bridge (circa 1860s), the original gate-keeper's cottage known as the Lodge (1862), the Chapel (1879), the Greenhouse (1902), main Gate and Bridge (1902) and the Office (1902). All of these were located in the entry area of the cemetery and are documented with photographs in Chapter Three: Entry Area (see figure 2.17).

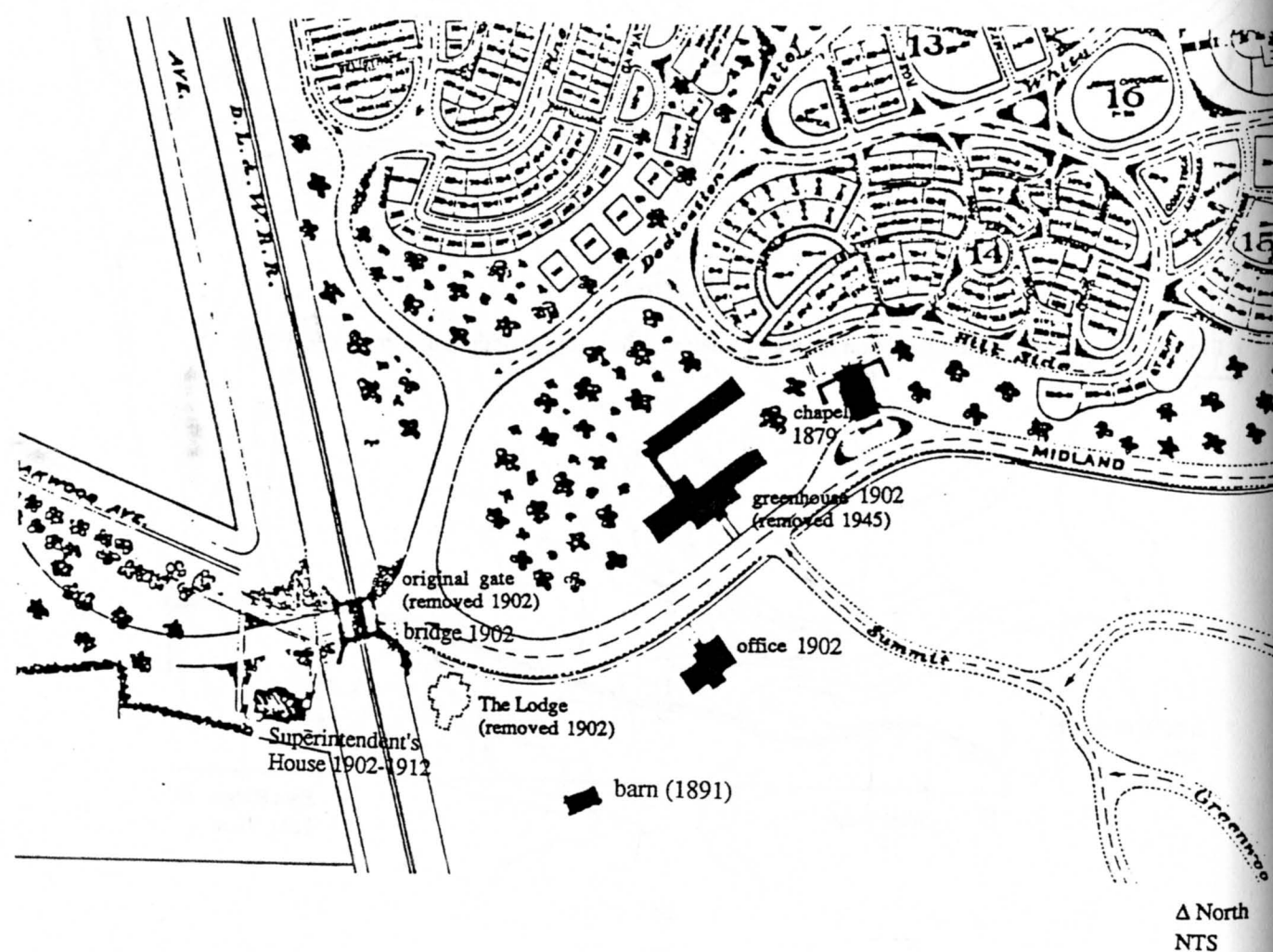


Figure 2.17 Location of Buildings and Structures (From 1912 map by Rhesa Griffin, Day, 1993).

The original Gate was a simple iron fence adorned with Egyptian revival columns. The entrance to the cemetery was simple. Located on Renwick Avenue, it was marked on the outside of the cemetery with wood fences.

The Lodge, constructed in 1862, was of frame construction having a simple board and batten cladding, gabled roof, and double gothic arch doorway and decorative upper windows (see figure 3.9 and 3.10).

In 1879 a Chapel designed by Joseph Silsbee was constructed. The Victorian Gothic style structure was built of Onondaga limestone, and had unique architectural details such as a steep-pitched slate roof with terra-cotta coping, a Gothic-arched porte-cochere, a high central tower and two rear "chimney pot"-like vent stacks.<sup>70</sup>

In 1902 the cemetery Office was constructed. The New York City architectural firm of H. Q. French and Company designed the Romanesque style building. The building, constructed of stone, replaced the Lodge. H. Q. French And Co., which specialized in mausoleum design, also designed the 1902 Gate and Bridge.

The Greenhouse and Palmhouse were constructed south-west of the Chapel in 1902. The Greenhouse had a stone masonry base, and the Palm house, located to the rear, was built into the hillside.

The major mausoleums of Oakwood also are listed as structures. The following mausoleums were listed as contributing features in the 1991 National Register nomination form. They are located on the 1898 map of Oakwood (see figure 2.18, Monument Location Map). The monuments include:

General Henry A. Barnum monument circa 1863 Section 12  
Two monuments commemorate Henry A. Barnum; the first was erected when it was believed that Barnum was killed at the battle of Malvern Hill During the Civil War (actually an unknown soldier was interred there); the second was ordered by General Barnum in 1891 from J. C. Esser, a Syracuse carver, and it is red granite and cost \$900. Barnum died the following year.

Burr Burton mausoleum circa 1866 Section 12  
Designed by Syracuse architect Horatio N. White, this mausoleum is of Onondaga cut limestone; said to have cost \$8,000.

Jasper & Christina Colvin monument; circa 1870 Section 20  
Benjamin Colvin tree stump  
Statuary: a dog carved in stone and a tree stump carved in marble, signed "W. S. See & Co., NY"; described on p. 65 of the 1871 history of Oakwood Cemetery by H. P. Smith. The Colvin Dog was stolen from the cemetery in August, 1993.

- James Crouse monument circa 1860 Section 13  
The first monument erected in Oakwood Cemetery it is made of Italian marble, weighs between 20 and 30 tons, and is 28 feet tall; Mr. Sidney Stanton is credited with being the designer and carver.
- John Crouse mausoleum circa 1884 Section 16  
English Gothic Style mausoleum: bronze doors; said to have been designed by a New York City designer.
- Hiriam Hoyt, MD., monument circa 1879 Section 19  
"Grecian gothic" monumental arch of limestone and polished granite; "Our Forest Home" carved in base; possibly designed by A. Schafer; described in Syracuse Journal on 7-11-1879.
- Elias Leavenworth mausoleum circa 1866 Section 13  
A gothic tomb, with paired gothic arches on each of the four sides. Set inside is a sarcophagus-like monument bearing inscriptions.
- C. T. Longstreet circa 1880 Section 3  
Pyramid surmounted by a solid stone cross: replaced a mausoleum erected before 1871.
- Captain Austin Myers mausoleum circa 1870 Section 9a  
Featured on page 41 of the 1871 history of Oakwood Cemetery by H. P. Smith; Gothic structure with buttressed corners; built by Randall & Nesdell.
- Charles Pope Monument circa 1870 Section 14  
A "most tasteful and elegant" monument of marble; described on p. 71 of the 1871 history of Oakwood Cemetery by H. P. Smith. A marble "Athena" statue atop a draped pedestal; signed by "Sharkey, Greenwood, NY."
- Milton S. Price monument circa 1868 Section 12  
A small carved monument depicting a "ruined wall" covered with moss and ivy.
- H. W. Stilwell monument circa 1861 Section 11  
The first "drapery finished" monument in Oakwood Cemetery; design taken from Greenwood Cemetery; saved by Spaulding's Marble Works.
- Lester Tucker monument circa 1869 Section 14  
Sculpted chair and baby shoes commemorate the death of a small child; example of Victorian memorials to the dead.
- Thomas Underhill monument circa 1880 Section 10  
Imposing tomb of dark blue Quincy granite" (article of 10-4-1880); marked with the man Francis & Duffy, monument builders.
- Orrin Welch Monument circa 1879 Section 13  
Erected by the Masonic fraternity; designed by prominent local architect Archimedes Russell; (See Syracuse Journal, 10-28-1879).
- Horace and Hamilton White Monument circa 1865 Section 12  
A "massive oblong memorial," similar to a sarcophagus tomb; carved with Gothic details on all sides; pictured on p. 87 and described on p. 66 of the 1871 history of Oakwood Cemetery by H. P. Smith.<sup>71</sup>



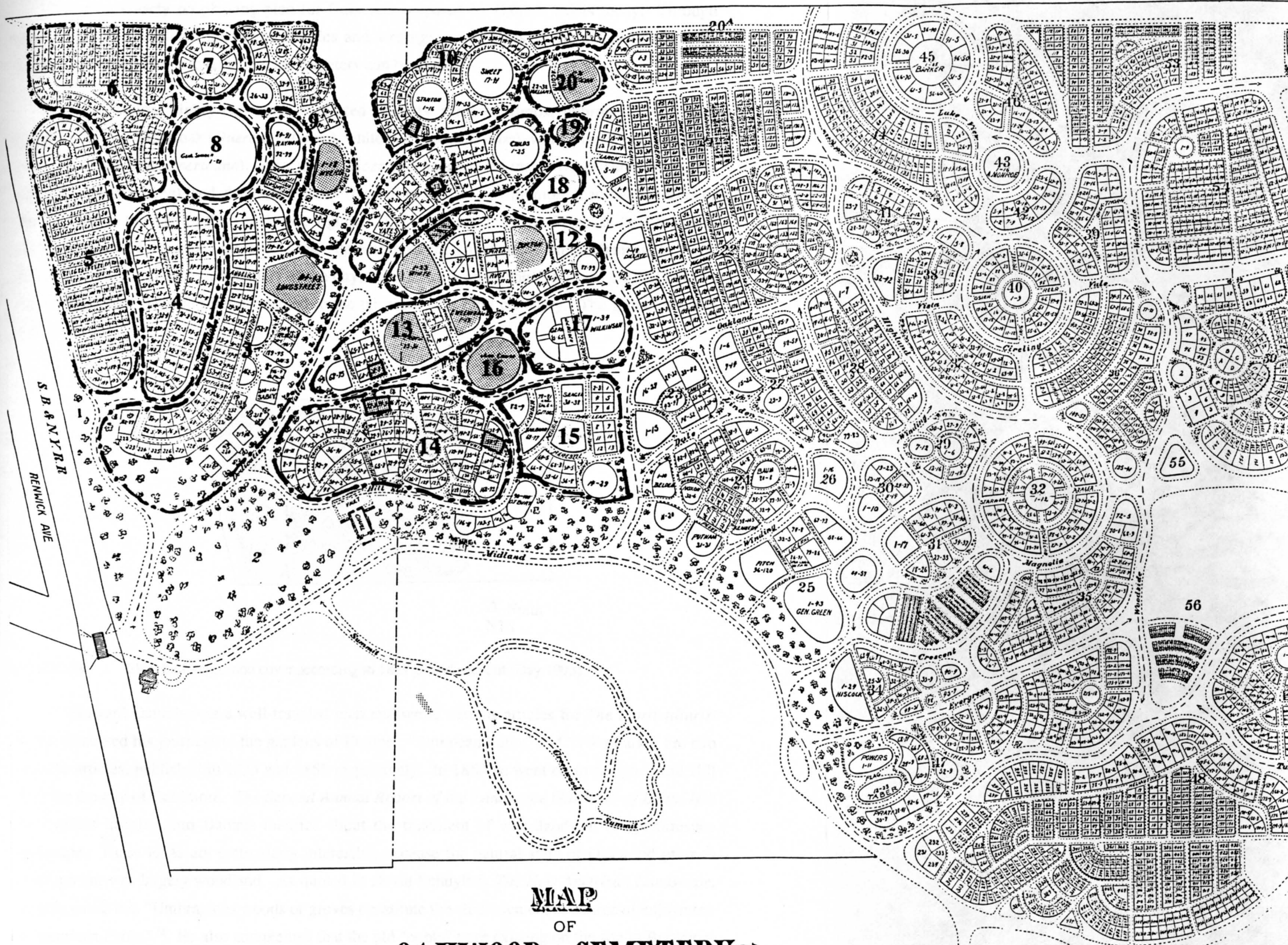
# Cultural Landscape Report OAKWOOD CEMETERY

Syracuse

New York

Prepared by:

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State University of New York  
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Syracuse, New York



MAP  
OF  
OAKWOOD CEMETERY  
SYRACUSE, N. Y.

R. GRIFFIN,  
CIVIL ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR,  
SYRACUSE, N. Y.

Section	Monument or Mausoleum
3	C. T. Longstreet Tomb
9	Austin Myers Mausoleum
10	Thomas Underhill Monument
11	H. W. Stilwell Monument
12 a.	General Henry Burton Maus.
12 b.	Burr Burton Mausoleum
12 c.	Milton S. Price Monument
12 d.	Horace and Hamilton White
13 a.	James Crouse Monument
13 b.	Elias Leavenworth Mausoleum
13 c.	Orrin Welch Monument
14 a.	Charles Pope Monument
14 b.	Lester Tucker Monument
16	John Crouse Mausoleum
19	Hiriam Hoyt, M. D. Monument
20	Jasper and Cristina Colvin

Monument Location Map

Map 2

Figure 2.18

## Vegetation

Unfortunately no planting plan for Oakwood prepared by Daniels exists today. Through investigation of Daniels's landscape theories and writings, some clues to the extent of planting, removal of trees and improvement to the cemetery can be found.<sup>72</sup>

The original eighty-two acres consisted of sixty acres of almost unbroken oak forest, interspersed with black oak (*Quercus velutina*), white oak (*Quercus alba*), white pine (*Pinus strobus*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*), and shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*), along with more than twenty acres of cleared land to the east of the woods (see figure 2. 19). One article in the Syracuse Post Standard published in 1857 described the site. "The site embraces the entire grove on the Jamesville Plank Road, near the south-eastern boundary of the city, together with about thirty acres of cleared land on the easterly side. It is admirably adapted to the purposes of a rural cemetery. The grove contains sixty acres. . . ." <sup>73</sup>

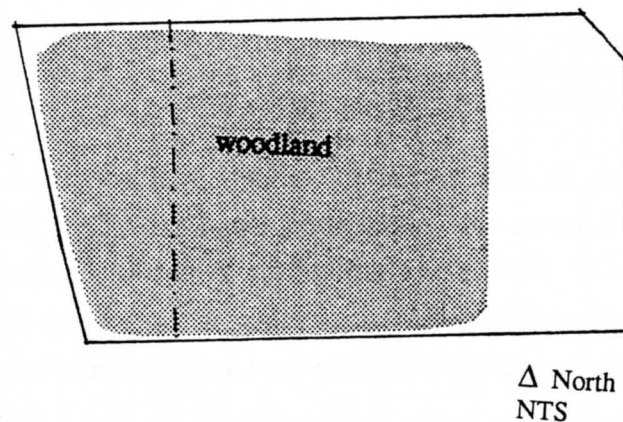


Figure 2.19 Sketch of vegetation cover according to 1857 period account (Day 1993).

Howard Daniels was a well-traveled man and wrote various articles for *The Horticulturist* which discussed his journeys to the gardens of Europe. "European Parks" and "Villa Parks" are two of these articles, published in 1855 and 1858 respectively. In 1860 he went on to design Druid Hill Park for the city of Baltimore. *The Second Annual Report of the Landscape Gardener of Druid Hill Park* offers insights into Daniels theories about the treatment of woodlands in the picturesque landscape. These ideas are particularly interesting because the natural state of Oakwood prior to development was largely woodland. As quoted in David Schuyler's *The New American Landscape*, Daniels wrote that "Umbragious woods or groves constitute the chief element or source of enjoyment in American Parks."<sup>74</sup> He also complained that the old "noble" trees existing on the site in Baltimore had been "greatly injured by the numerous smaller ones" which had grown around them. The



sparseness of their lower branches led Daniels to reluctantly advise a "thinning out of the less vigorous growth, in order that the more valuable trees may have scope for robust development."<sup>75</sup> In Daniels's description of the Druid Hill Park site, it is clear that he favored the naturalistic appearance of untouched woodlands: "The northern section now covered with old and sturdy woods presenting many magnificent forest scenes should be left untouched in all the grandeur and luxuriance of its primitive growth."<sup>76</sup>

At Oakwood, one year before work began at Druid Hill, it is probable that Daniels used the tree selection technique he described at Druid Hill. At Druid Hill, Daniels discussed the opportunity of working with existing trees: "... mostly covered with young and thrifty woods of the second growth, so abundant as to allow great opportunity for selection. . . ."<sup>77</sup>

According to a period account, Daniels worked with a crew of fifty to sixty men and "thinned and grouped" trees enhancing the picturesque appearance of groves and stately specimens and cleared brush and stumps.<sup>78</sup> In Daniels's instructions for the Trustees, he writes about clearing trees in various sections:

'Improvement Account', embraces the cost of grubbing, grading, blasting, and trenching- the construction of the roads, walks, lots, etc. This account should be credited with the amount received from the sale of wood.

The word, grubbing, by definition means to clear by digging up roots and stumps. The Improvement Account includes not only grubbing, but the sale of wood. The Receipt Sheet for the cemetery documents a total of \$959.33 received for rent and the sale of wood and hay between the years 1874 and 1876 (see figure 2.20). Reference to clearing also is made in the final section of the instructions in which Daniels lists odds and ends that need to be channeled into specific accounts:

The Tool Box- the surveying rods, and the handles to axes, picks, mattocks [a digging and grubbing instrument with features of an ax or pick] etc. by Mr. Powell should be charged to 'Improvement Account'.

Also, at Druid Hill, Daniels saw his task as to "... open a vista here, fill out a group there . . ." and to arrange the drives to follow "... graceful curves and easy grades . . ." and provide "... glimpses of distant landscape views of rare and varied loveliness. . . ."<sup>79</sup> In many cases the presence of historic plant material is indicated by the names of the various roads and paths that appear on the circa 1898 map.<sup>80</sup> The naming of the avenues started in 1867. An examination of the existing plant material reveals whether the roads were named for the trees, or whether the trees were planted to coincide with the name selected. In the case of native species such as White Oak, Maple, and Oakland, the existing trees were present when the cemetery was designed (See figure 2.21).

Year	For Rent & Hay & Wood sold.	Sundry Credits to Expense %	Greenhouse receipts	Costly Midland Ave. Sewer Assessments paid	Total receipts from all sources
1859		884			32644
1860					1452673
1861					3542044
1862					659557
1863					885838
1864					1631945
1865					835513
1866		2700			1149727
1867		4508			1512417
1868		3450			12127944
1869		3200			958600
1870					1576452
1871		6475			972350
1872		11775			1462378
1873		82186			1468870
1874	500	9275			1180237
1875	14543				1436971
1876	18550				888916
1877					932238
1878	62240				854092
1879					851488
1880					1096640
1881					804933
1882		300			841933
1883					868207
1884					1044617
1885					971303
1886					685153
1887	800	175			1766149
1888	87848	200			1684957
1889	50400				1557969
1890	46135				1553345
1891	51090				1412297
1892	42150				1551455
1893	43550				1495544
1894	40250				1619941
1895	41550				1380636

Figure 2.20

Portion of Receipt Sheet for Oakwood Cemetery (Oakwood Cemetery Association).

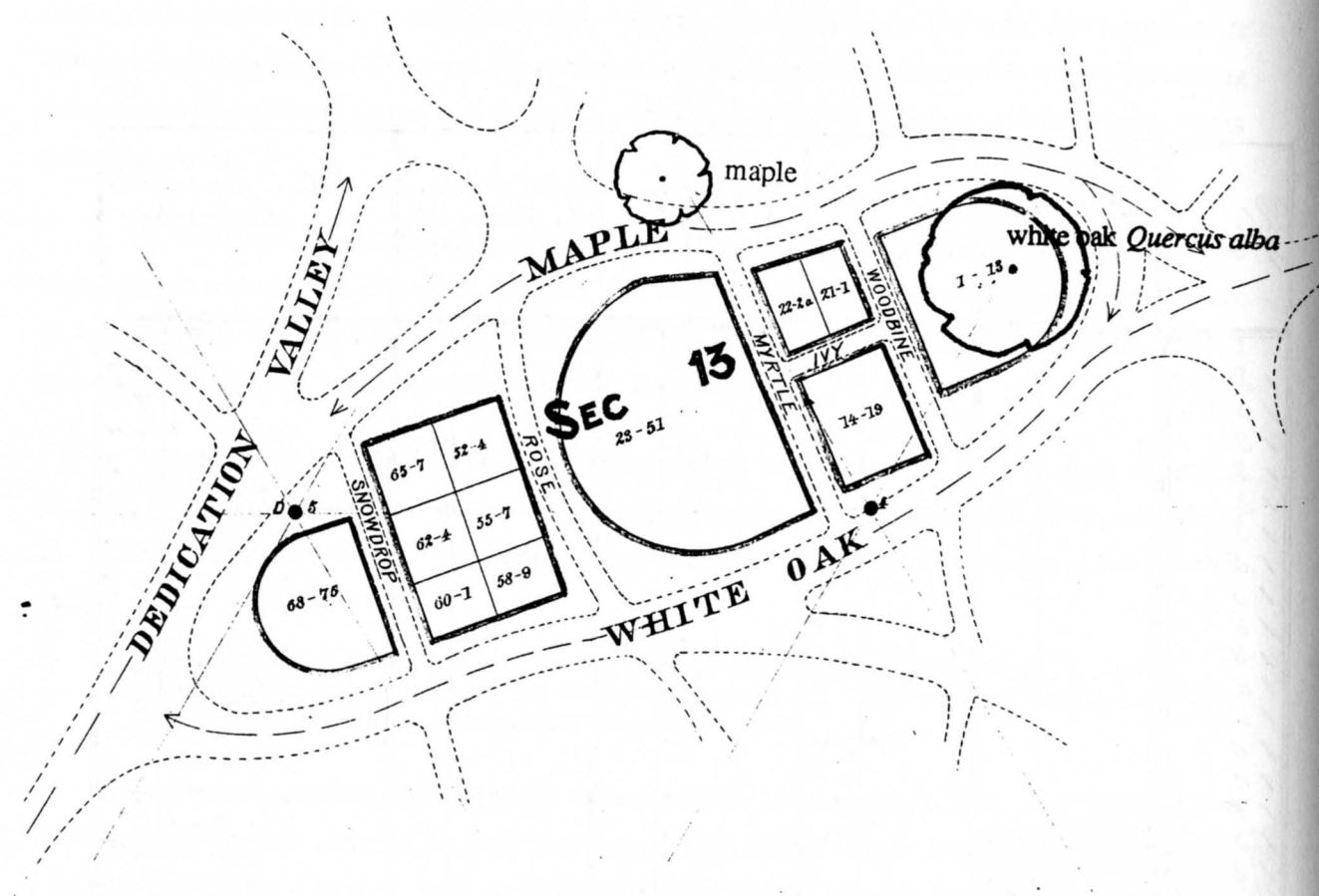


Figure 2.21 Plan of White Oak and Maple Avenues illustrating historic tree locations (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

Many of Oakwood's non-native species are trees dating back to the 1850s. The source and availability of these non-native species was researched and it was found that many of the trees were available through the nursery industry by about 1850. Syracuse Nurseries, established in 1830, was a local firm shipping stock nationwide at least by the middle of the century.<sup>81</sup> This company's 1859 advertisement lists many trees from Europe, Asia, and different parts of North America; thus, it might well have been a source for Oakwood's non-native trees. Ellwanger and Barry Nursery in Rochester, founded in 1840, was another possible source. The nursery experienced rapid growth and expansion between the years 1840 and 1865, as the company provided wholesale and retail business through catalogs, agents and the nursery to clients across the country. *The Papers of Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries* state that the nursery acquired their stock from the eastern United States and Europe.

It is unknown whether Daniels prepared a planting plan in 1859-1860. According to cemetery records, expenditures for trees and shrubs did not begin until 1863; They may have been planted according to a plan by Daniels, by the superintendent George Gardener, or by Elias Leavenworth. The extent to which lot owners improved and managed their land also must be taken into consideration. Supported by the information that Elias Leavenworth continued to be a regular customer of the Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries through 1889, it is reasonable to assume that he may have been responsible for the planting of his lot in Oakwood.<sup>82</sup> The obituary for J. P. Haskins (1812-1873), one of the original trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, also suggests that lot owners planted their lots:

The remains were followed to Oakwood by a long procession, and deposited in the receiving vault, where they will remain until spring, when they will be removed to the lot owned and beatified by Mr. Haskin in his lifetime.<sup>83</sup>

In the nineteenth century gardening and horticulture were popular cultural and leisure time activities. Ann Leighton, the author of a series of American garden history books, describes the growth of the interest in horticulture as a "revolution" that came to America from England with the industrial revolution.<sup>84</sup> The existence of the Oakwood Cemetery Rules and Regulations written by the cemetery Trustees in 1859 indicates that lot owners had a great deal of desire to improve their lot to their own taste and style. Although there were strict design guidelines (as described today) about heights of stone coping and fences, it was common for lot owners to spend a great deal of time, money and thought on their lot design. "The proprietor of each lot may erect any proper monument or structure thereon and cultivate trees, shrubs, or plants on the same. . . ."<sup>85</sup> The Rules and Regulations also provide detailed instructions to lot owners about trees and shrubs on their lots which suggest plantings were the responsibility of the individual lot owner:

#### 1st

All lots shall be held in pursuance of the provisions of Title 8th article [sic] 1st Chapter 18th. Part 1 of the revised Statutes of the State of New York and shall not be used for any other purpose than as a place of burial for the dead.

#### 2nd

The proprietor of each lot may erect any proper monument or sepulchral structure thereon and cultivate trees, shrubs, or plants on the same except that no slab shall be set in any other than horizontal position unless it be at least three inches in thickness, finished on both sides, set in a permanent socket of stone and not exceeding two feet and a half high and two feet wide: and no tree growing upon the lot or border shall be cut or destroyed without the consent of the association.

#### 3rd

Vaults or Tombs are not recommended, but will be permitted provided all but their fronts and roofs are below ground built of durable materials and fitted with catacombs in a tight and substantial manner which shall be sealed up with hard brick laid in cement immediately after the deposit of bodies therein and the entrance provided with an iron metal door.



## 4th

If any trees or shrubs situated in any lot shall by means of their roots, branches, or otherwise become detrimental to the adjacent lots or avenue, or dangerous or inconvenient to passengers or may mar the effect and beauty of the scenery. It shall be the duty of the association and shall have the right to enter the said lot and remove the said trees or shrubs or such parts thereof as may be detrimental, dangerous, or inconvenient.

## 5th

If any monument, Vault, Tomb effigy or structure whatever or any inscription be placed in or upon any lot which shall be determined by a majority of the Board of Trustees for the time being to be offensive or improper, the said Trustees shall have the right and it shall be their duty to enter upon such lot and remove the said offensive or improper object or objects provided however that if said structure or improvement shall have been made with the consent of the Board of Trustees. The same shall not thereafter be removed except by a vote of three fourths of the Trustees.

## 6th

Proprietors shall not allow interments to be made upon their lots for a confirmation nor shall any transfer or assignment of any lot or any interest therein be valid without the consenting of the Trustees of their offices first had and endorsed upon such transfer or assignment nor shall any disinterment be allowed without permission being obtained of the President or Secretary.

## 7th

With a view of preserving the sylvan effect so essential in rural cemeteries no enclosure of lots will be allowed other than plant hedges not exceeding three and one half feet in height or simple posts of iron or cut stone to designate the corners or angles of lots. said posts to project not more than one foot above the surface of the ground. In place of the posts, continuous curb or coping of cut stone [may] encircle the lot provided the same be not more than one foot in height.

## 8th

The foundation for Vaults, monuments or any other structures shall be in accordance with the Rules and By laws of the association and all workmen employed in such foundations or in the construction of vaults enclosing of lots, section of monuments, or any other work pertaining to the improvement of the grounds shall be under the supervision and direction of said association or its agents. The grading and trenching of all lots the digging of ground and foundation trenches must be under the direction of an agent of the association and by workmen employed by the association on the grounds.

## 9th

It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees and they shall have power from time to time to lay out or alter such avenues or walks as they may deem proper provided the same does not interfere with lots previously disposed of and to make such general rules and regulations for the government protection and improvement of the grounds as they may deem requisite and proper to secure and promote the general object of the association.

## 10th

The proprietors of lots and their families shall be allowed access to the grounds at all times observing the rules which are or may be adopted for the regulation of Visitors.<sup>86</sup>

The Rules and Regulations were written by the Oakwood Cemetery Trustees in 1859 as a means to address a wide variety of concerns. Functional issues such as lot ownership, cemetery access and construction of vaults are discussed as well as aesthetic guidelines such as the size and orientation of lot enclosures. The second, fourth, and seventh rule specifically describe aesthetic recommendations and guidelines. The second Rule and Regulation states that the lot owner may erect a monument and cultivate trees and shrubs on the lot, and that no existing tree may be removed without the consent of the association. This rule makes it clear that individual lot owners were expected to plant new trees and shrubs on their land, although it does not make any recommendations about the location, size, or type of tree or shrub. It also guarantees the preservation of existing trees by forbidding their removal without the association's approval. The fourth Rule and Regulation states that if any tree or shrub on any lot is detrimental to adjacent lots or avenues it will be removed by the association. In this rule the association is asserting control over the improper location of trees or shrubs by the individual lot owner. The rule also pertains to existing trees that obscure the avenues or access to lots as they grow. The seventh Rule and Regulation states that no enclosure of lots will be allowed exceeding three and one half feet in height. The association did not allow lot enclosures in order to "... preserve the sylvan effect so essential in rural cemeteries. . . ."87 This rule was included as a result of decisions at other rural cemeteries to remove such lot enclosures. Mount Auburn, for example, started removing iron fences from lots in 1850 after the increasing number of lots and fences threatened the natural appearance of the cemetery. It was also found at Mount Auburn that maintenance was much easier without the iron enclosures.<sup>88</sup>

Articles about rural cemeteries found in *The Horticulturist* during the nineteenth century also provide evidence that lot owners participated in the improvements of their lots. In 1856, a series of articles suggest that preparations for a lot's embellishment must be made by "... managers as well as the individual owners of lots. . . ."89

The great difficulty experienced by planters of individual cemetery lots, is in their want of knowledge as to plants that will succeed in particular situations. Many lots are in shade either totally or partially; to place roses in such spots, would be sure to be attended with disappointment, while, with a proper selection of shrubbery, success would be insured. Our list, as in the former number, is not complete but will prove suggestive to lot holders in cemeteries as well as for private gardens.<sup>90</sup>

A list is published in the article which includes trees to be planted by the company and trees suitable for individual planters (see figure 2.22). The trees included in the list for individual planters are, for the most part, specimen and dwarf varieties such as dwarf oaks, copper beech, and *Magnolia grandiflora*. The list is included as it originally appeared in Appendix: F 1856 Plant List from *the Horticulturist*.

Horticulturist Plant List for Cemetery Plantings			
Evergreen-trees	Deciduous Trees	Trees and Shrubs Suitable For Individual Planters	Weeping Trees for Individual Lots
Norway Spruce Fir	Oaks*	Dwarf Oaks	Sophora Pendula
Hemlock Spruce	Magnolia macrophylla	Magnolias grandiflora or Evergreen	European Weeping Ash
The Cedar of Lebanon	Magnolia conspicua	Magnolia the glaucous or Swamp	Weeping Birch
The Pinaster	Magnolia acuminata	Magnolia tripetala, or Umbrella tree	Weeping Beech
The Cephalonian Pine	Magnolia auriculata	Magnolia conspicua or Chandelier-tree	Weeping Larch
The Weymouth Pine	Tulip-tree	Magnolia purpurea, and Soulangeana	Weeping Elm
The White Spruce Fir	American Lime Tree or Tilia	Berberies	Weeping Oaks
The Black Spruce Fir	Maples*	Mahonias	Weeping Oaks
The Balm of Gilead*	The common Horse-Chestnuts*	Stuartia Virginica, and Marylandica	Weeping Poplars
Cryptomeria Japonica*	Virgilia lutea or Yellow Wood	Gordonia pubescens	Weeping Linden
Abies Doulassi	All the Robinias, or Locusts	The Black or Norway Maple*	Weeping Laburnum
Abies Morinda	Kentucky Coffee Tree	Dwarf Horse-Chestnut	Weeping Thorns
Pinus Sylvestrus,	The Judas tree	Kilreuteria paniculata	The Lenticus Weeping Ash
Pinus Gerardiana,	The Florida Dogwood	The Hop tree	
Pinus Lamvertiana	The Buttonwood	The Bladder nut tree	
Pinus cembra	The Mountain Ash	Japan Euonymus, evergreen	
Pinus monticola	The Ash-trees	The Hollies	
Picea Pinsapo	The Copper and other Beeches	Venetian Sumac	
Picea picta	The Sassafras in groups of three or five	Virgilia lutea or Yellowwood	
Picea nobilis	The Elm and the Slippery Elm	Spanish Broom	
Picea amabilis	The Hickories on the high ground	The Laburnums	
Picea Fraserii	The Aspen	The Rose Acacia	
Picea Menziesii	The Lombardy Poplar	The Bird Cherry	
	The White and Paper Birches	Roses	
	The Liquidambar	The Common Ivy*	
	The Ginkgo Tree	The Rhododendrons:*	
	European and American Larches	Kalmia latifolia	
	Deciduous Cypress	Rhododendron maximum	
	White Fringe Tree	Rhododendron carawbiense	
		Rhododendron ponticum	
		The Snowdrop trees	The Forsythia viridissima
		The fringe tree	The Mahonias
		The copper Beech	Wiegela Rosa and Amabilis
		Pinus Pumilio	The Tamarisks
		Juniperus Suecica	The Spireas
		Juniperus Hibernica	Juniperus Sabiniana
		Juniperus Chinensis	Juniperus pendula
		The Yews	Deutzia gracilis

## NOTES:

## Evergreen-trees

\*The Balm of Gilead: if this is planted in the youth of the cemetery, it will, in twenty years, serve as a tree to be thinned out and destroyed, and, answering for present effect, is useful.

\*Cryptomeria Japonica: a very desirable evergreen for cemeteries; not entirely hardy at the North.

## Deciduous Trees

\*Oaks: all the varieties, but, especially, the Overcup and the White Oak.

\*Maples: most of these should be employed, but, as in the case of the single lot-holder, we recommend the Acer Platanoides, or Norway, especially.

\*The common Horse-Chestnuts and the Red and Double Chinese. The Buckeye loses its leaves too early in the autumn.

## Trees or Shrubs Suitable for Individual Planters:

\*The Black or Norway Maple: no tree will produce a better head, or a more impenetrable shade, and, as it does not attain a great height, there is no more suitable large tree for a single lot.

\*The common Ivy: will spread gracefully over a lot, instead of grass, but is found, in practice, to collect the leaves in winter, and the kinds. The Common Ivy will spread gracefully over a lot, instead of grass, but is found, in practice, to collect the leaves in winter, and the prove difficult to displace.

Figure 2.22 Plant List and Notes published in *The Horticulturist*, 1856.

So noteworthy have been Oakwood's trees that the cemetery was used as an example of a "forest cemetery" in the 1891 American Association of Cemetery Superintendents Meeting and was recorded in the collection of papers: *Modern Cemeteries: A Selection of Papers Read Before The Annual Meeting of the Association of American Cemetery Superintendents*.<sup>91</sup> Nevertheless, nearly all the plantings at Oakwood reflect the naturalistic design aesthetic established by Daniels. Although the initial clearing necessary for the construction of roads and lots was overseen by Daniels, new plantings of trees and shrubs do not appear to be a large part of his work at Oakwood. The early photographs of the site record both mature trees and new plantings. For example, the Milton Price lot contains both mature oak trees and young shrubs. An early stereo pair view of the lot illustrates large deciduous trees within the boundary of the stone coping, and two young shrubs planted on each side of the stairs (see figure 2.23). The Headly lot also illustrates two shrubs planted on each side of its entrance. The two evergreen shrubs are well maintained and emphasize the formal entrance to the lot (see figure 2.24).

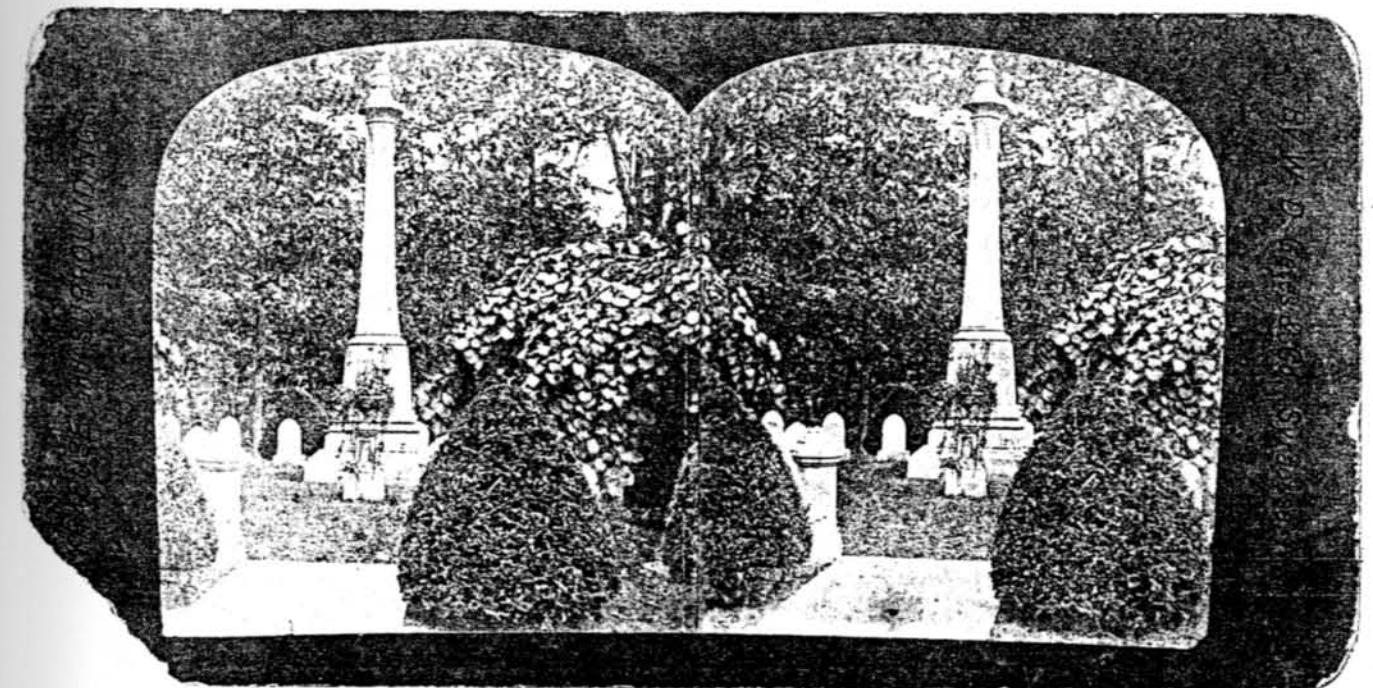


Figure 2.23 Milton Price Stereopair, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).



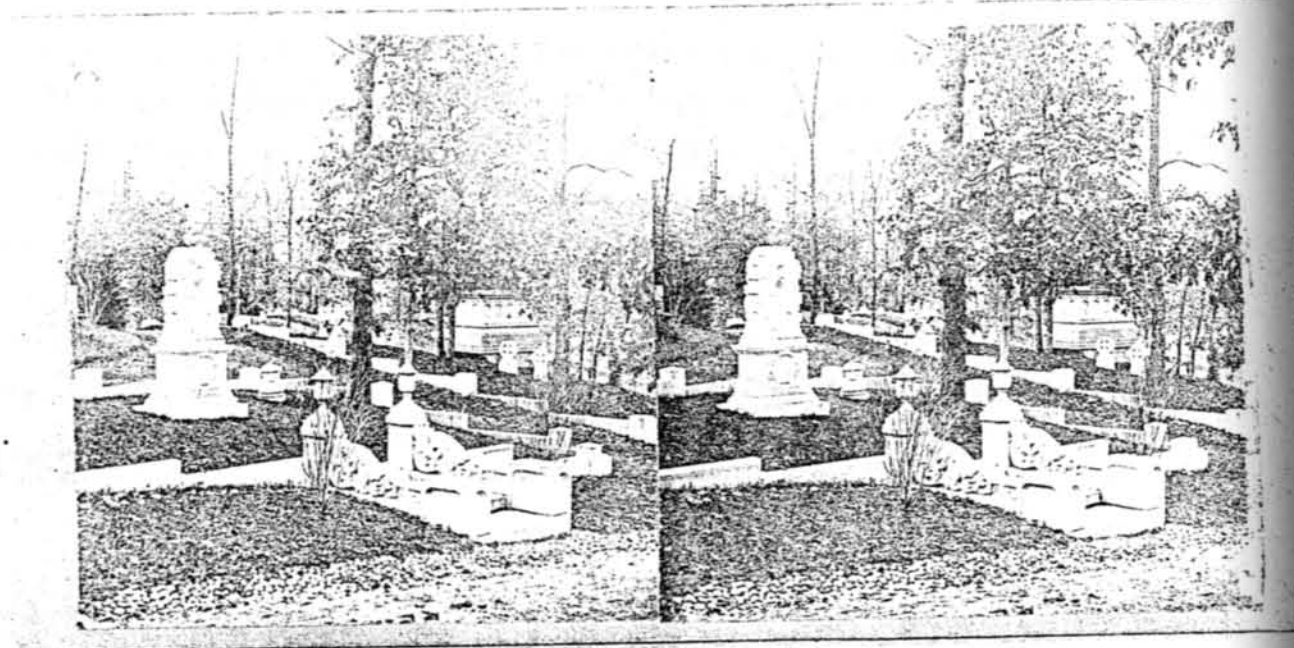


Figure 2.24 Headly Lot, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the landscape is defined as the three dimensional organization of physical and visual associations. The organization of elements create the base plane, overhead plane, and vertical plane which define and create spaces. The functional and visual relationships between these spaces was integral to the character of the historic landscape.<sup>92</sup> As a designed landscape, the cemetery contained several levels of spatial organization. There are major spaces that organized the overall cemetery, and there are small scale spatial relationships within these major spaces. The contrast of Oakwood's deep gullies, ravines and rounded hilltops created a unique spatial experience for the visitor at the large scale and at the small scale. The major organization of the cemetery will be discussed in this chapter, and further detail will be provided to discuss the small scale relationships in the next chapters.

The overall spatial organization of Oakwood is defined by the topography and circulation which comprised the base plane, the canopy of the vegetation which comprised the overhead plane, and the structures and monuments, vegetation and topography that created the vertical plane. The functional and visual relationship between the spaces of the cemetery also contributed to the organization of the landscape. Four major spaces were evident in the study area: the Entry Area, the Inner Core, the west ridge and the east ridge (see figure 2.25).

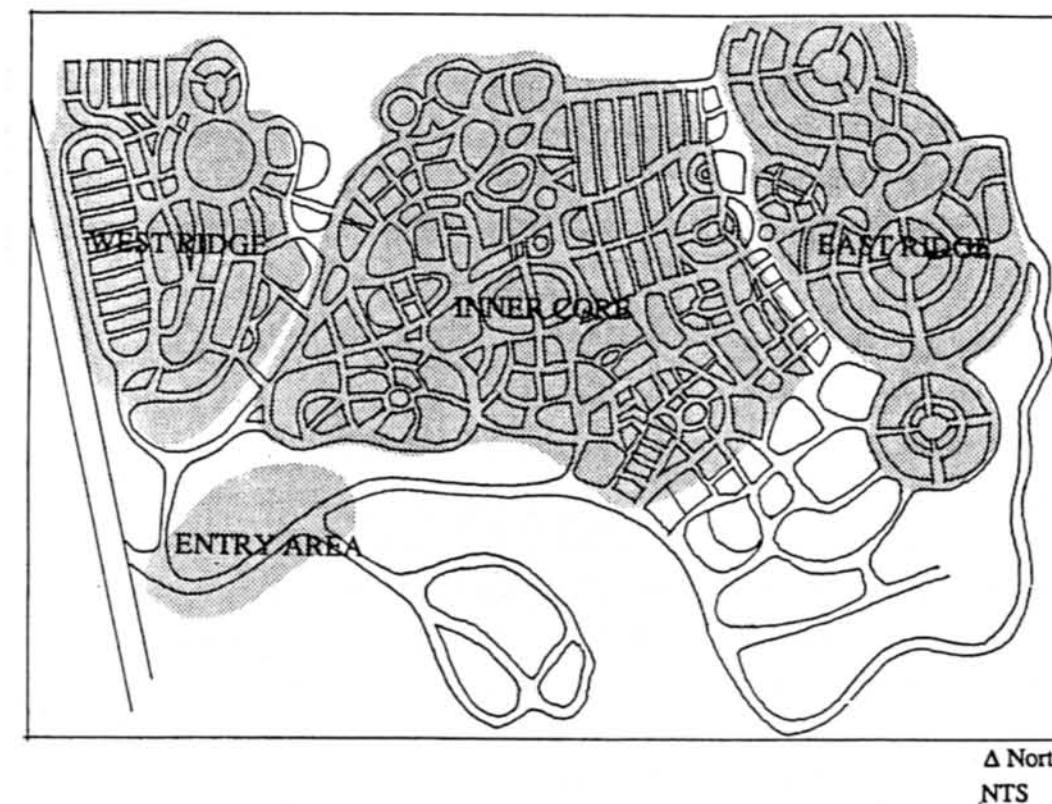


Figure 2.25 Spatial Organization Diagram illustrating the four spaces of the cemetery (Day, 1994).

The Entry Area was defined by natural features, topography, and vegetation, and designed features, the original Gate and Bridge, Chapel, avenues, and Office. It was a contained space; the topography enclosed the corridor delineated by Midland Avenue. The Entry Area contained the services of the cemetery, and therefore its function distinguished it from the rest of the cemetery landscape. The Inner Core was defined by the topography and circulation. It was located in the low point of the cemetery and was enclosed on the west and east by steep slopes. The west ridge was an area of the cemetery that maintained a relatively uniform topography. The landform sloped uniformly upward from the west boundary of the cemetery to the high point of the ridge which was aligned north-south. The land then sloped downward to Dedication Valley to form the west boundary of the inner core. The east ridge comprised the greater part of the cemetery landscape that contained a great variety of small scale landform variations. The general landform of the area could be described as sloping upward to the eastern boundary. The area was characterized by dense vegetation with very few breaks in the overhead canopy.

The contrast of the Entry Area, Inner Core, west ridge and east ridge created a unique spatial experience for the visitor. The roads brought the visitor through the entry area deep into the cemetery. The visitor was separated from the setting. It was only at the high points of the east and west ridges that views to the surrounding farms and the city below were abundant.

### Views/ Vistas

Vistas (controlled or designed) and views (natural or uncontrolled) were used in Oakwood to contribute to the complexity of the landscape. Designed vistas employed vegetation, circulation, undulating landforms and monuments to create unique compositions throughout the cemetery. Views of the surrounding landscape, City of Syracuse, and Onondaga Lake were planned from the high points of the cemetery.

Vistas and views were visual features of the landscape, but more importantly they expressed the meaning of the rural cemetery. As mentioned, views from the Entry Area and the Inner Core were contained within the cemetery. By visually separating the visitor from the surrounding landscape Daniels emphasized the notion that the cemetery landscape should be separate and unique from the nearby city. Inside the cemetery views were focused inward to distant roads and compositions. Daniels believed that a design should manipulate the landscape to create picturesque views. Writing in 1858, he stated, "The improvements should be made to produce the greatest possible number of fine scenes, each having a distinctive character of its own, forming a complete picture on itself."<sup>93</sup> Many of the designed views, such as the location of the Chapel along Midland Avenue, were contained within the cemetery boundaries.

In 1860, describing a successful landscape, Daniels stated:

Persons alive to the charms of a landscape will find at every move or turn new scenes bursting upon the vision; the eye is often led a wanton chase down the long vistas terminating in some deeply embayed recess of the skirting woodland, or across the broad meadows checkered by the shadows of shrubs and single trees; or arrested by the gorgeous coloring of a group in an old fence row, follows it by degrees through its intricate forms and coloring, till lost in the general hue of the distant wood.<sup>94</sup>

The views within the cemetery were very important to the visitors of the day. In H. P. Smith's history of the cemetery he describes several of the scenes. One example illustrates the elaborate compositions of such views:

From a point near the junction of Woodland and Central Avenue is obtained one of the finest internal views in the cemetery. Sitting beneath a grand old oak- the only monument upon a green circle between the streets-facing the West, immediately in front is reared the elaborate form and lofty spire of the mausoleum of the Burton family, a beautiful illustration of which will be found upon another page (see figures 2.26 and 2.27).<sup>95</sup>



Figure 2.26

Burton Engraving (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).

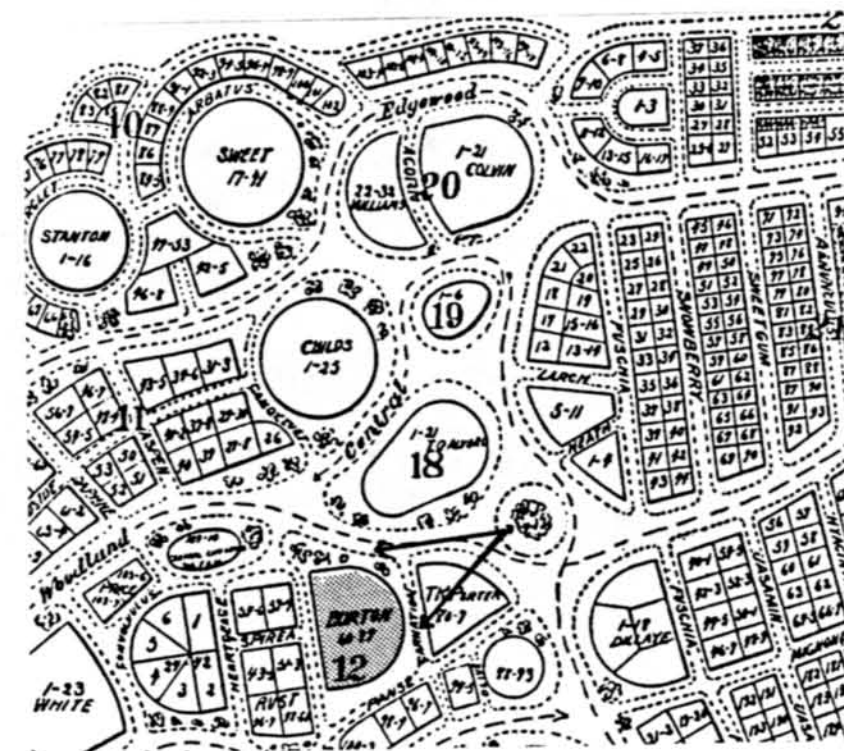


Figure 2.27

Intersection of Woodland and Central Avenue illustrating location of view described by H. P. Smith (Day, 1994, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



Another method to emphasize the anti-urban attitudes of the Romantics was to provide distant views of the bustling city. These views of the city reinforced the rural, picturesque qualities of the cemetery by contrasting it to the city below. Standing amidst the natural setting and seeing the city in the distance emphasizes this juxtaposition of the city and nature. At Oakwood, views to the City of Syracuse were planned on the east ridge from Lake View and the west ridge from Sunset. The Barker lot, located at the east ridge, was one of the best spots to view the city (see figure 2.28 and 2.29). A period account of the history of Oakwood proclaimed that "... from this point we obtain one of the grandest landscape views we may hope to enjoy. Afar below lies the busy city, almost every building of which is visible, and beyond, in the dim haze, the blue lake sleeps in the lap of the surrounding hills." 96

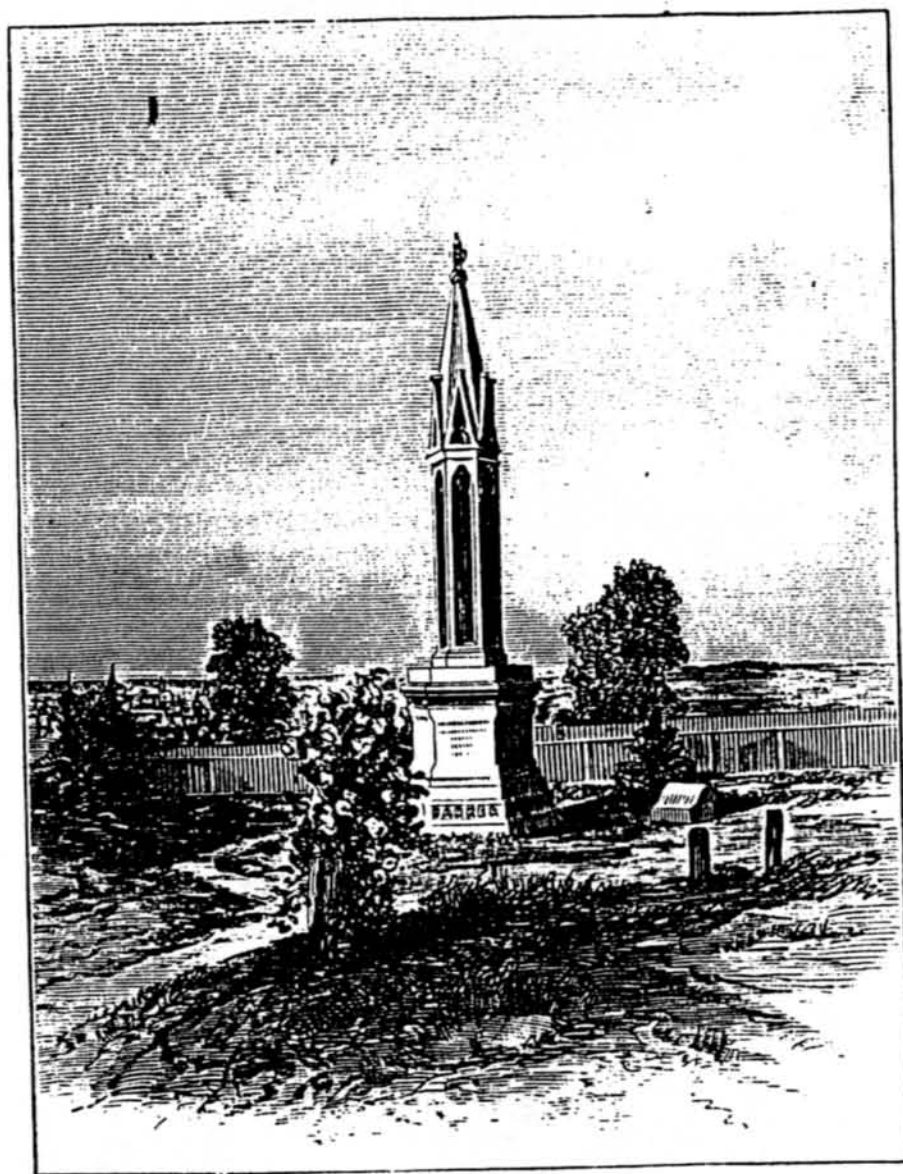


Figure 2.28 Barker Engraving, Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, NY. (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).

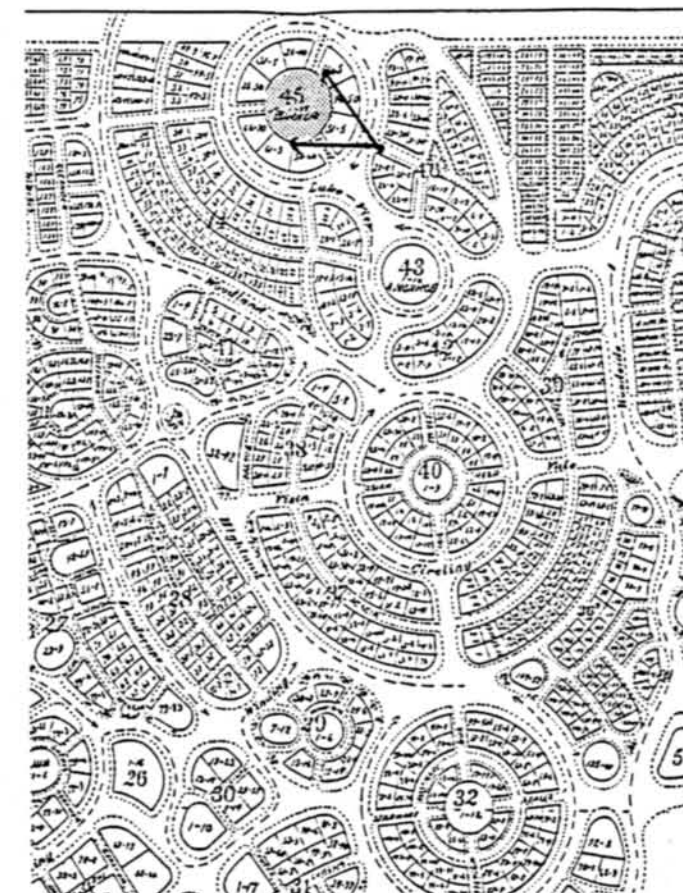


Figure 2.29 Plan of Lake Avenue illustrating location of view described by H. P. Smith (Day, 1994, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

### Circulation

The roads and paths of Oakwood were designed as organizational features as well as aesthetic features. The gravel roads visually divided the spaces of the cemetery, while maintaining a low profile through the valleys and ravines of the site. The curving path of the roads led the visitor through a series of unexpected views and elevations. The roads served an organizational function by providing circulation throughout the cemetery landscape. In order to accommodate the functional aspects of the cemetery the roads had to access each of the sections and lots. At Oakwood the circulation system also incorporated the drainage system with cobble gutters built adjacent to most of the major roads. The map published in 1871 illustrates the extent of the road development circa 1870 (see figure 2.30).

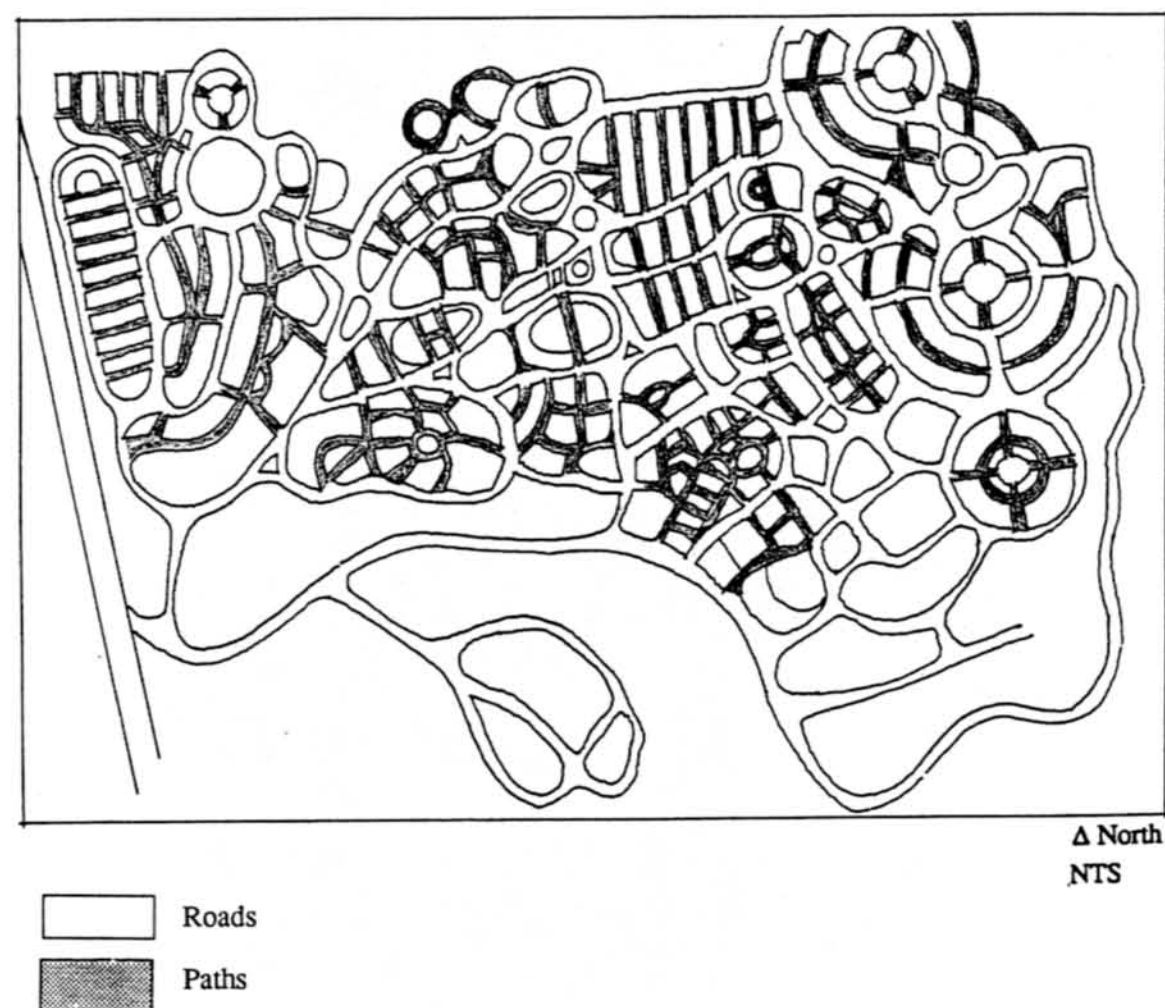


Figure 2.30 Diagram illustrating road and path development in 1871 (Day, 1993, from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).

The sinuous, curving character of the road layout was characteristic of the rural cemetery style. The complex network of roads and paths led visitors through the cemetery over a variety of terrain. The circulation system carried the visitor through the site in a way that called attention to planned vistas and natural views, both internal and external; divided land into sections; and divided sections into individual lots. The main roads, "... like Woodland, were sinuous and steep as they descended below the hills. In contrast, in many areas, such as sections twenty two and twenty three smaller paths were laid perpendicular to the slopes, between the vertical roads."<sup>97</sup> Section twenty-one, a section with smaller lots contained seven paths that were laid parallel to each other and the slope of the east ridge (see figure 2.31). While the main roads provided views to all areas of the cemetery, to the distant city, to Onondaga Lake, and Onondaga Valley beyond, the elaborate system of paths provided physical access to each plot. One of the interesting features of the design is Daniels's incorporation of geometrical, more formal circular roads into the natural design (see figure 2.32).

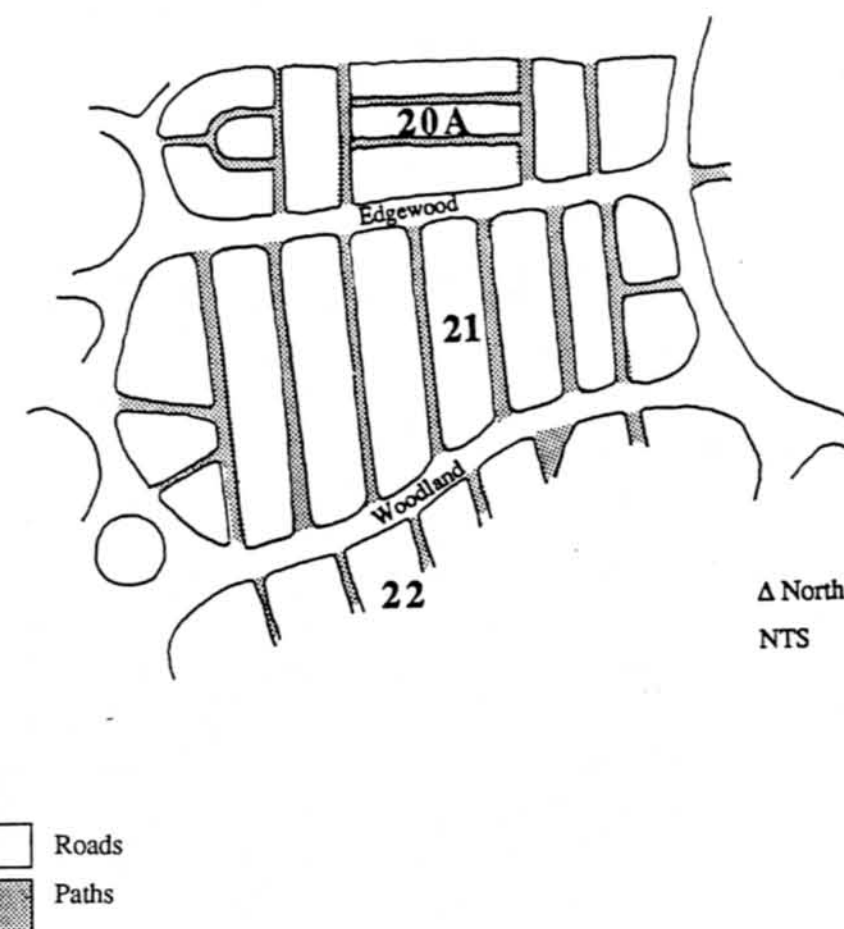


Figure 2.31 Plans of section twenty-one illustrating smaller paths parallel to the slope (Day, 1993).



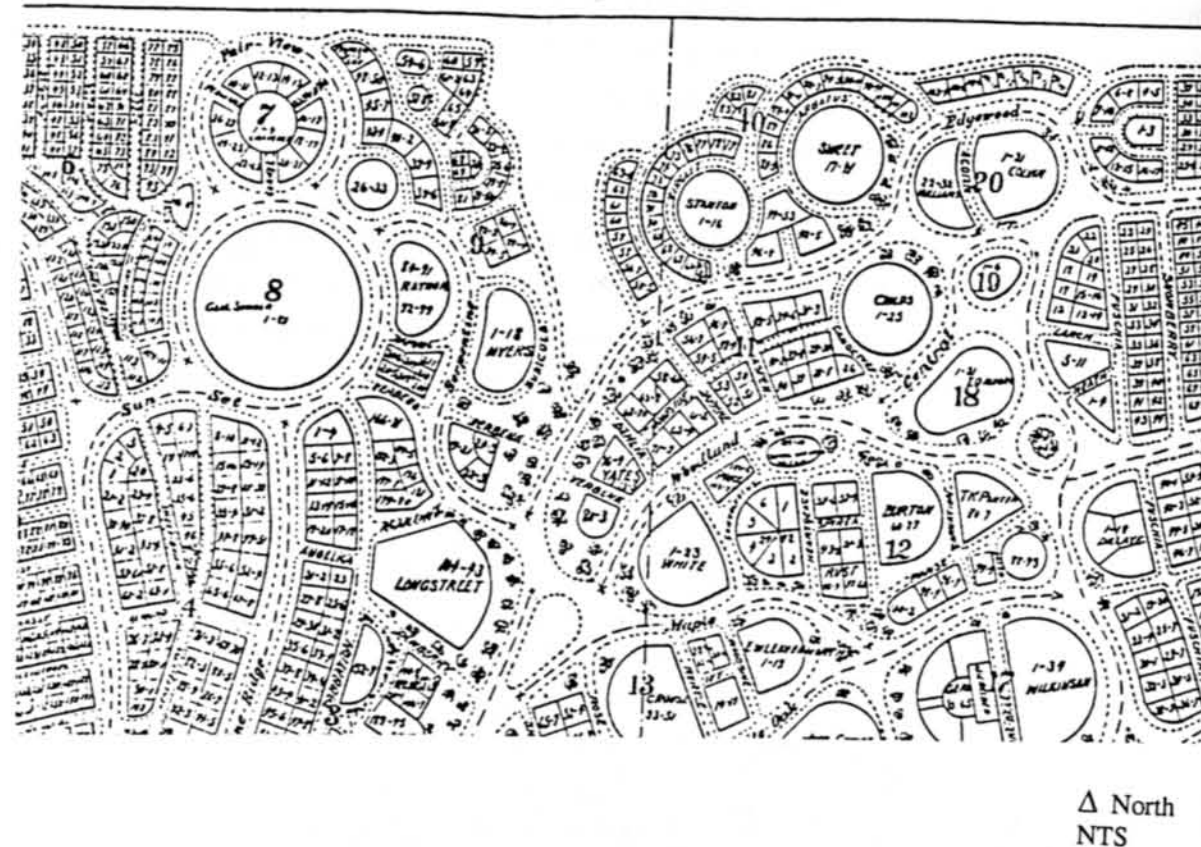


Figure 2.32 Contrast of circular roads with more natural roads (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

The circulation system consisted of roads designed for slow carriage traffic, approximately eighteen to twenty feet wide, and paths designed for pedestrian traffic approximately, two to three feet wide. The road surface material was compacted soil and gravel and the path surface material was compacted soil. The sophisticated cobble gutter drainage system was designed as an integrated feature of the road network. Cobble gutters were built adjacent to the roads and were designed to carry water away from the road and adjacent lots (see figure 2.33). The gutters were approximately 2' wide. Photographs illustrate that the gutters were located on both sides of the roads in some sections of the cemetery and on one side of the road in others. The exact locations of the gutters through out the cemetery are not known. The gutters were constructed of cobbles ranging from approximately 3" x 3" to approximately 5" x 5". The cobble gutters also had an aesthetic impact in the cemetery. The stonework provided a finished edge along the dirt roads and showed an attention to detail and craftsmanship in the cemetery design and construction (see figure 2.34).

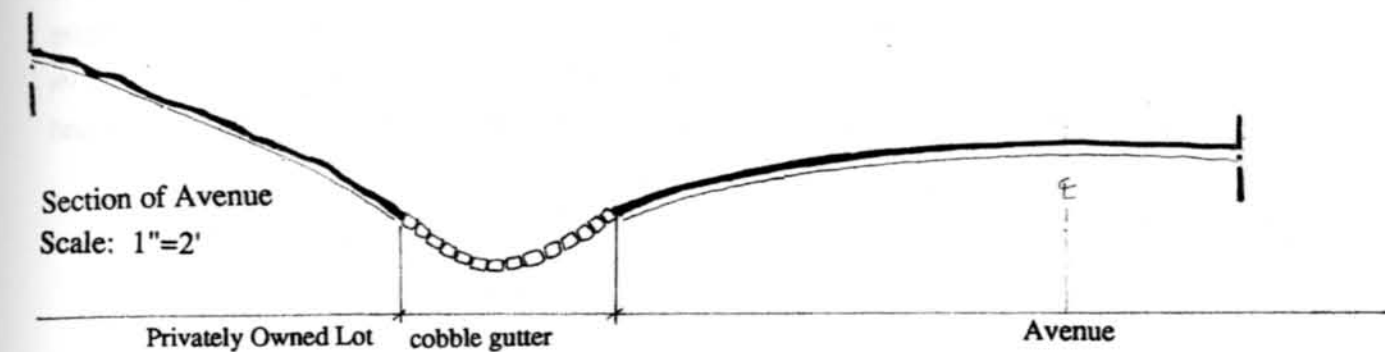


Figure 2.33 Section view of cobblestone gutters (Day, 1993).



Figure 2.34 View showing detail of path and road material, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).

### Water Features

There is one water feature recorded in Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* in 1894. The lily pond was located at the northern edge of Dedication Valley in a prominent position in the cemetery. The date of construction of the Lily Pond is not known. The pond is recorded on the 1912 map by Rhesa Griffin, and recorded in Annie Maltbie's, *Picturesque Oakwood*, published in 1894. The pond served as a focal point for views from Dedication Valley and surrounding lots (see figure 2.35 and 2.36). The pond was a man-made water feature with a formal stone edging around its perimeter. In the period photographs of the lily pond it is surrounded by grass-like vegetation and planted with water lilies.

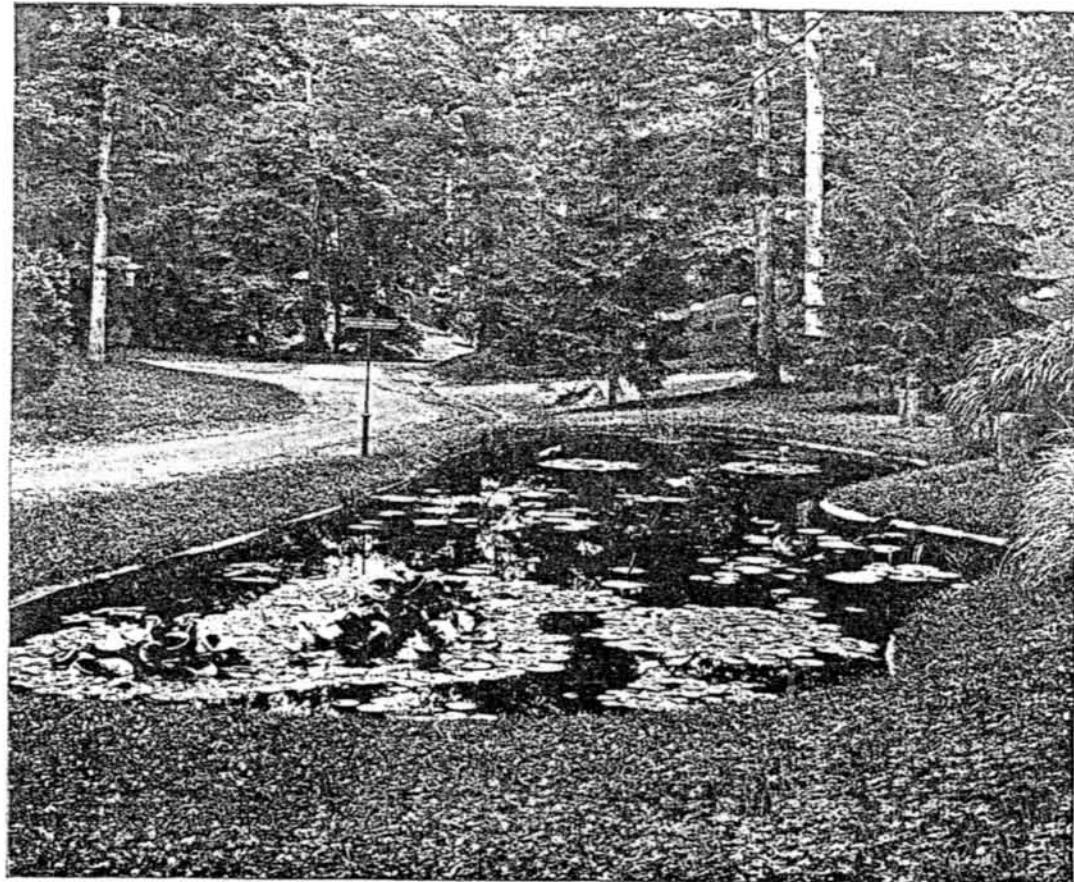


Figure 2.35 View of lily pond (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894).



Figure 2.36 Plan of Dedication Valley illustrating location of lily Pond, labeled LAKE (Map by R. Griffin Jr., 1912).

### Furnishings and Objects

Fences and gates were not allowed in the cemetery. All elements that were used to enclose lots were carefully monitored by the Trustees of the Cemetery. Andrew Jackson Downing published an article in *The Horticulturist* abolishing the overuse of fences (which he called "iron mongery") that was occurring in rural cemeteries when lot owners were left to their own ingenuity (see figure 2.37).



Figure 2.37 View illustrating lots enclosed by fences (Engraving of Joseph Story Monument, from *Picturesque Pocket Companion*, 1839).



The Trustees of the Cemetery may have read Downing's article and agreed with the reasoning presented, because the following guidelines were outlined in Oakwood's Rules and Regulations:

With a view of preserving the sylvan effect so essential in rural cemeteries no enclosure of lots will be allowed other than plant hedges not exceeding three and one half feet in height or simple posts of iron or cut stone to designate the corners or angles of lots, said posts to project not more than one foot above the surface of the ground. In place of the posts a continuous curb or coping of cut stone, [may] encircle the lot provided the same not more than one foot in height.<sup>98</sup>

Section signs were placed in the cemetery by 1860. The signs were small, approximately four inches in height and six inches in width. The sign had rounded corners, and contained a stake that could be pushed into the ground. Howard Daniels describes these in his instructions to the trustees in his letter of Feb. 20th: "The Shed, the Gate [Gate] at the NW corner of the Cem [sic], the platform and the seats for Dedications, the Privies, the Section Signs etc. go to the Expense Accounts" (see figure 2.38). Road signs were placed throughout the cemetery. The street signs were approximately five feet tall and contained a plate across the top indicating the street name (see figure 2.39).

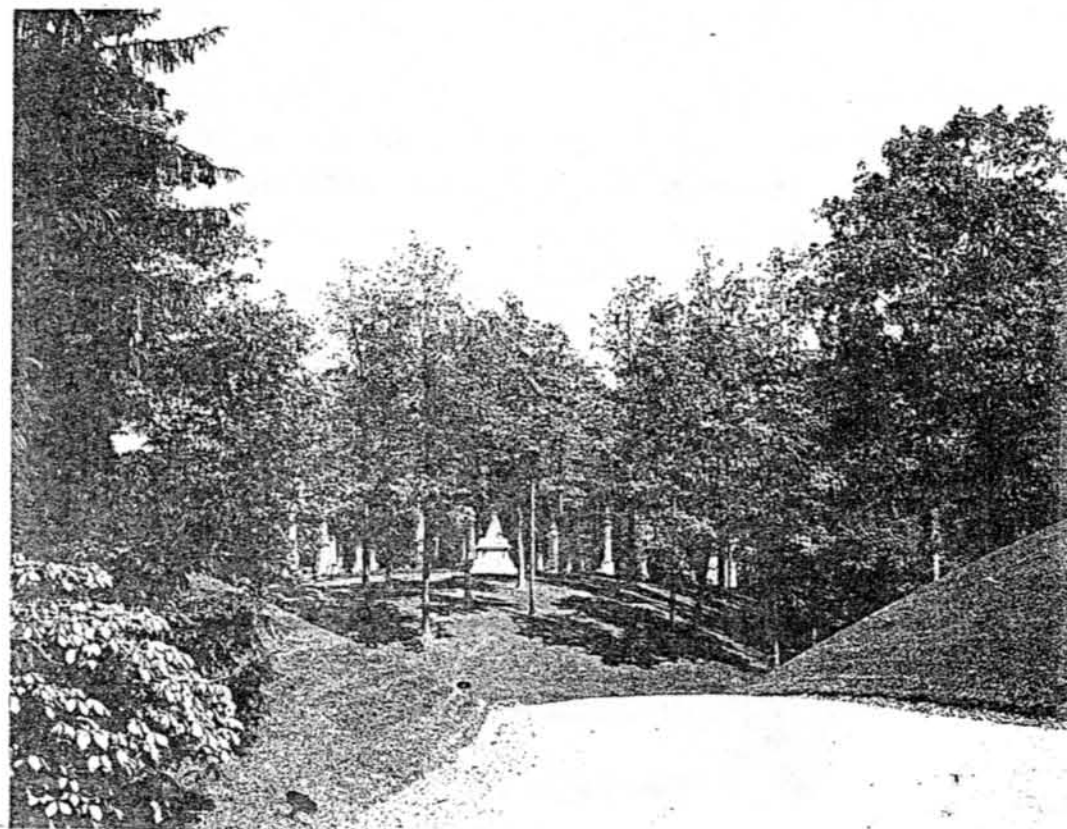


Figure 2.38 Section signs placed on each section, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).

Hitching posts were located throughout the cemetery. There were the hitching posts provided by the Cemetery Association along major avenues and private hitching posts were placed on individual lots by the owner for personal use. The hitching posts varied in style and design. The cemetery-owned hitching posts were simple, cast iron posts with a ball located at the top. These posts were located at road intersections.



Figure 2.39 View of Dedication Valley illustrating iron road signs, circa 1880s (Onondaga Historical Association).

Although individual gravemarkers are not cataloged, their importance in the cemetery composition can not be overlooked. The specific design, size, and location of each monument was ultimately the decision of the individual lot owner, but had to follow the guidelines of the cemetery trustees. Further discussion of the use of monuments in lot design is included in Chapter Five: Privately Owned Lots.

### **Summary**

Oakwood Cemetery was constructed in 1859, twenty-eight years after the first rural cemetery was completed in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The conception, planning, and the resultant physical form of Oakwood Cemetery followed the example of other rural cemeteries such as Mount Auburn in Cambridge. Several characteristics of this cemetery type were essential to the meaning and purpose of the rural cemetery: carefully selected location well outside the city boundaries, natural characteristics such as woodlands and unique landforms, and curvilinear roads and paths.

The design of Oakwood Cemetery by Howard Daniels addressed each of these design characteristics. Syracuse's rural cemetery became a popular burial spot as many prominent citizens purchased family lots. The growth of the cemetery and the associated improvements to the landscape are discussed in the next three chapters. The major period of development occurred between 1879 and 1902 with the construction of the Chapel (1879), the 1902 Gate and Bridge (1902), the Office (1902), and Greenhouse (1902). The cemetery experienced little change after this period until 1945 when the Greenhouse was demolished, and then in 1964 when Interstate 81 was constructed. Each chapter addresses a unique portion of the cemetery: the Entry Area, the Inner Core, and the Privately Owned Lots and focuses on the turn of the century landscape that represented a major period in the cemeteries history.



## CHAPTER THREE

### Entry Area: History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis

The three prototype areas contribute to the physical and functional organization of the cemetery in different ways. The Entry Area, the first prototype area to be discussed, is unique because it was the only portion of the cemetery that was entirely public. It served as a transition between the city streets and the cemetery avenues, between the urban and the rural. The Entry Area contained no privately owned lots. The cemetery owned buildings provided the services necessary for a nineteenth century cemetery. The main Gate and Bridge provided a sense of entry; the Chapel provided a formal space for funeral services and the use of the receiving vault; the Office provided information and visitor's passes; and, the Greenhouse provided a convenient source of flowers and shrubs.



Figure 3.1 Location of Entry Area, circa 1879 (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

This chapter presents the history, existing conditions, and an analysis of the landscape features in the Entry Area. The history section will document the history and development of the Entry Area through primary research of available photographs, maps and text; the existing conditions section will document the present condition and location of landscape features through field survey; the analysis will evaluate the landscape feature's contribution to the site's historic significance and integrity through comparison of field survey information and historic documentation.

In 1859 the main entrance to Oakwood Cemetery was located off Renwick and Oakwood Avenues on the cemetery's west boundary (see figure 3.2). The original Entry Area was modest and functional; it consisted of an iron Gate and Bridge and care-taker's cottage, called the Lodge. As the cemetery grew in size and popularity additional improvements were made.

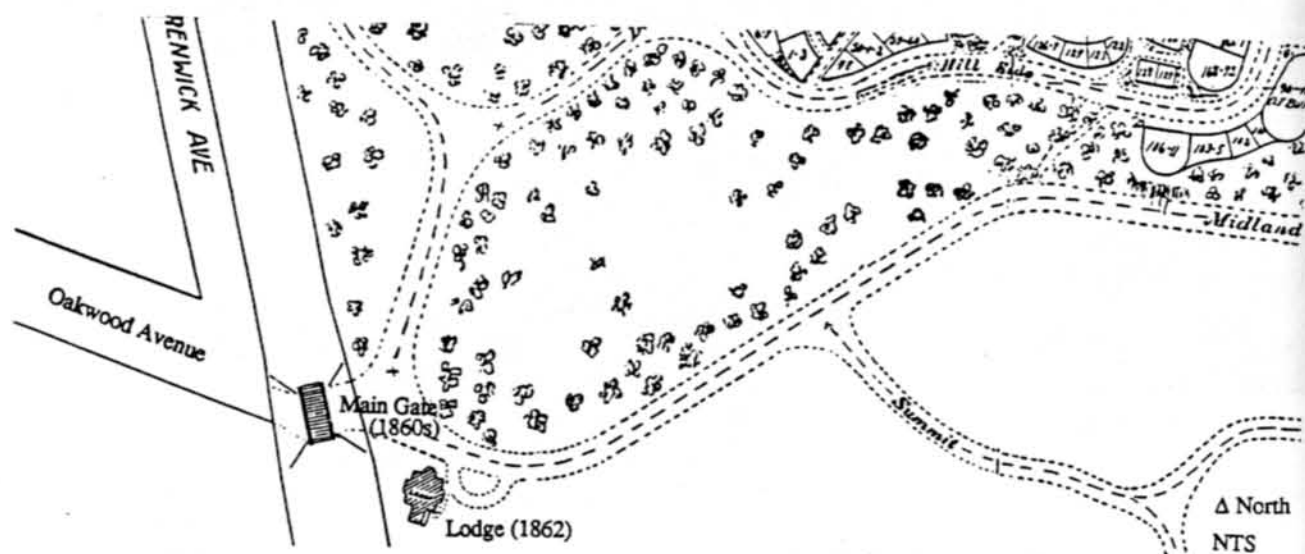


Figure 3.2 Plan of Entry Area, circa 1860s (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

Preparations for the first major addition began in 1879 when a design for a Chapel and receiving vault was commissioned from the well-known Syracuse architect, Joseph L. Silsbee. The Chapel and receiving vault were constructed in 1879 east of the existing Lodge (see figure 3.3).

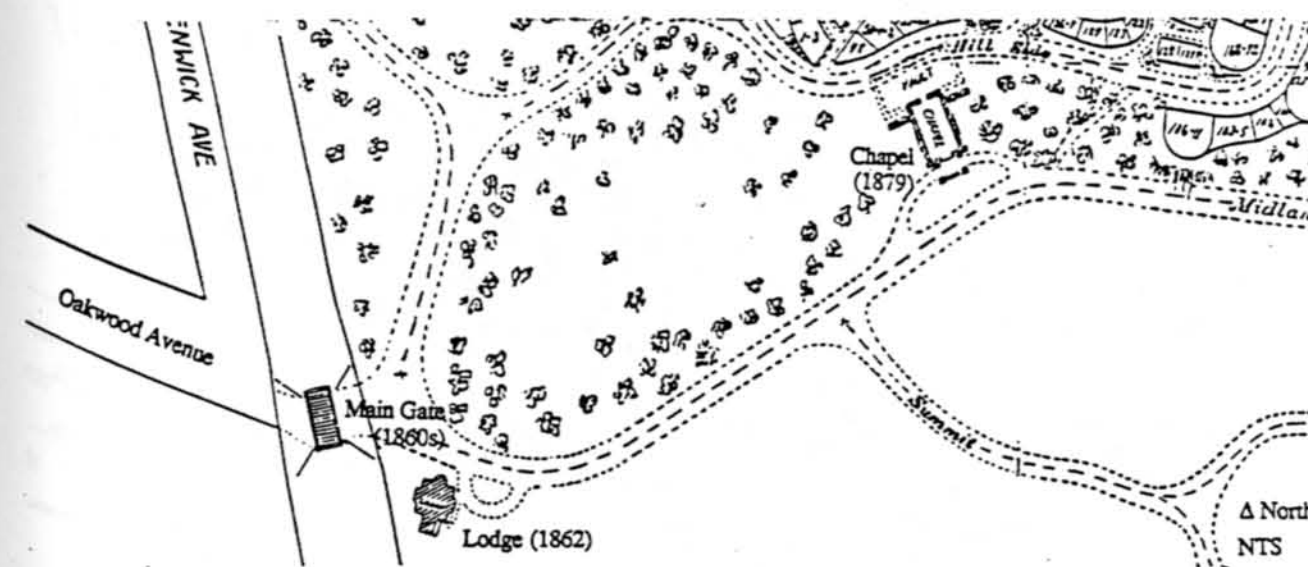


Figure 3.3 Plan of Entry Area, circa 1880s (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



Extensive improvements were made in 1902; a new Gate and Bridge that spanned the elevated railroad tracks, Office, Greenhouse, and superintendent's house were constructed. The new superintendent's house was constructed on the west side of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad tracks (DL&W Railroad) and south of the Oakwood Railway stop (see figure 3.4). By 1912 the Lodge was removed, but the exact date is not known. The superintendent's house extended the cemetery entry sequence into the Village of Danforth.

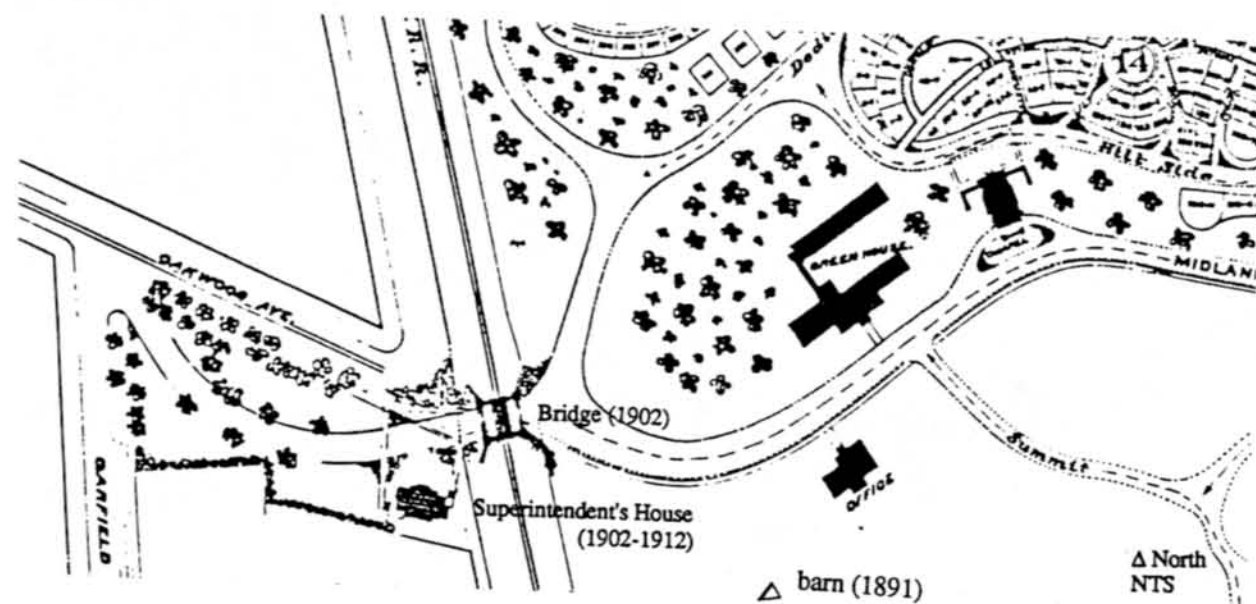


Figure 3.4 Plan of Entry Area, circa 1902. Location of Chapel (1879), Greenhouse (1902), Office (1902), and 1902 Gate and Bridge (1902), superintendent's house and Oakwood Avenue (Map by R. Griffin, circa 1912).

## HISTORY

Several historic photographs document the Entry Area. Photographs of the original Gate and Bridge (circa 1860s), Lodge (1862), Chapel (1879), Office (1902), and 1902 Gate and Bridge (1902) document the landscape features.<sup>99</sup>

### Topography

The topography in the Entry Area provided enclosure and defined the Entry Area as a space within the cemetery. Historic photographs were the sole source of information regarding topography in the Entry Area. Early photographs of the original Gate and Bridge and the Lodge illustrate a ridge that extended from east of the Chapel (Section fourteen) to the Entry Area, and separated Midland Avenue and Dedication Valley (see figure 3.5 and 3.6).

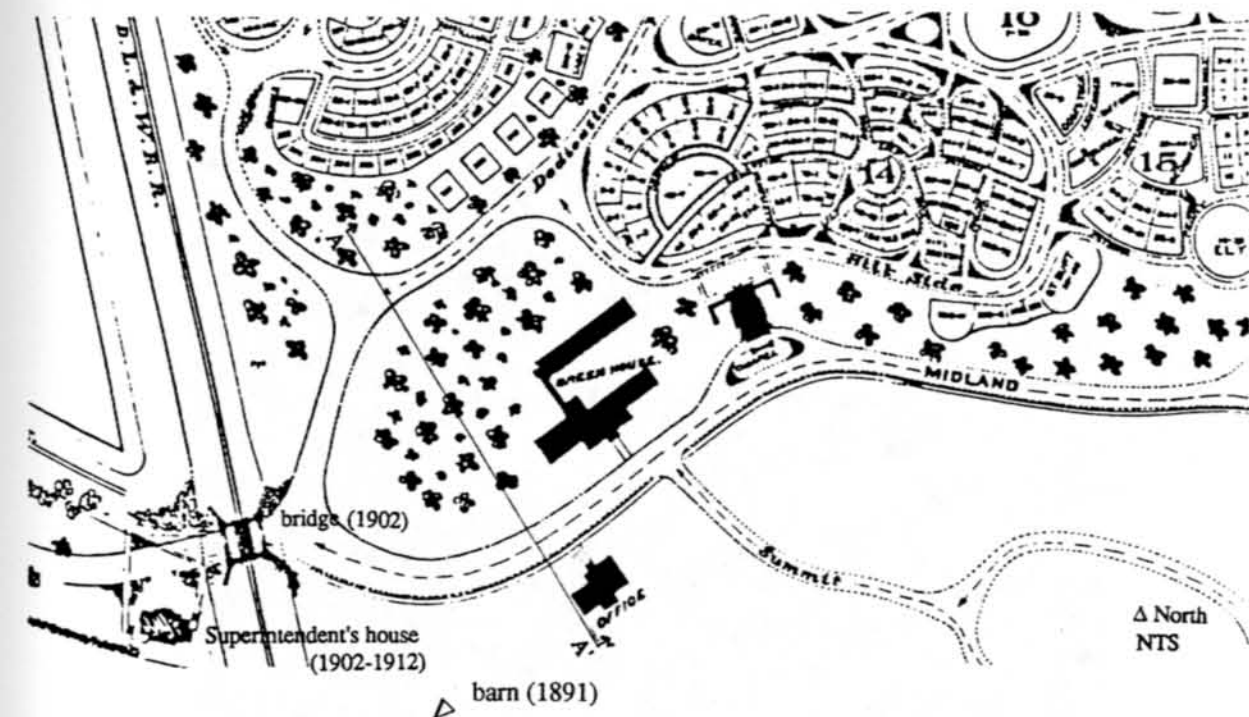


Figure 3.5 Plan of Section fourteen and Entry Area (Map by R. Griffin Jr., 1912).

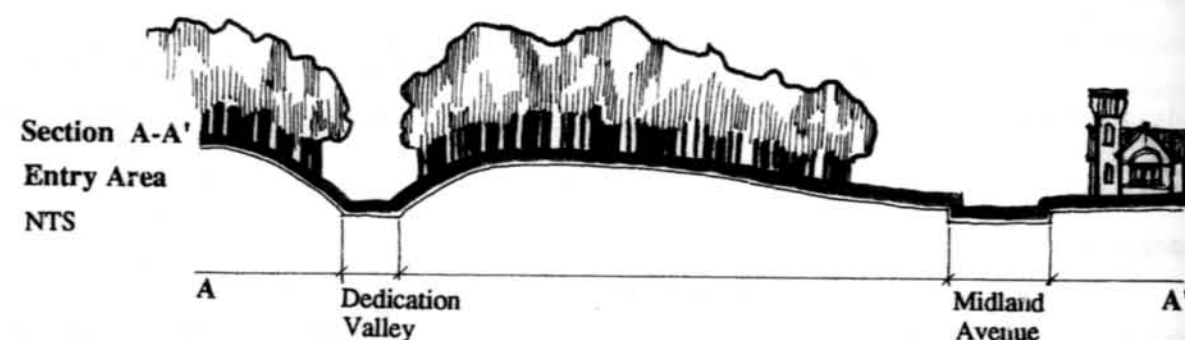


Figure 3.6 Section through Entry Area illustrating general landform (Day, 1993).

### Buildings and Structures

The buildings and structures in the Entry Area provided formal spaces, views and services for the cemetery.

Original Gate and Bridge: The original entrance Gate and Bridge was installed circa 1860s at the western boundary of the cemetery. Two views illustrate the modest iron Gate adorned with Egyptian-revival columns: one taken from outside the cemetery, and one taken from inside the cemetery (see figures 3.7 and 3.8). The photograph also illustrates the elevated DL&W Railroad tracks that span the entrance overhead.

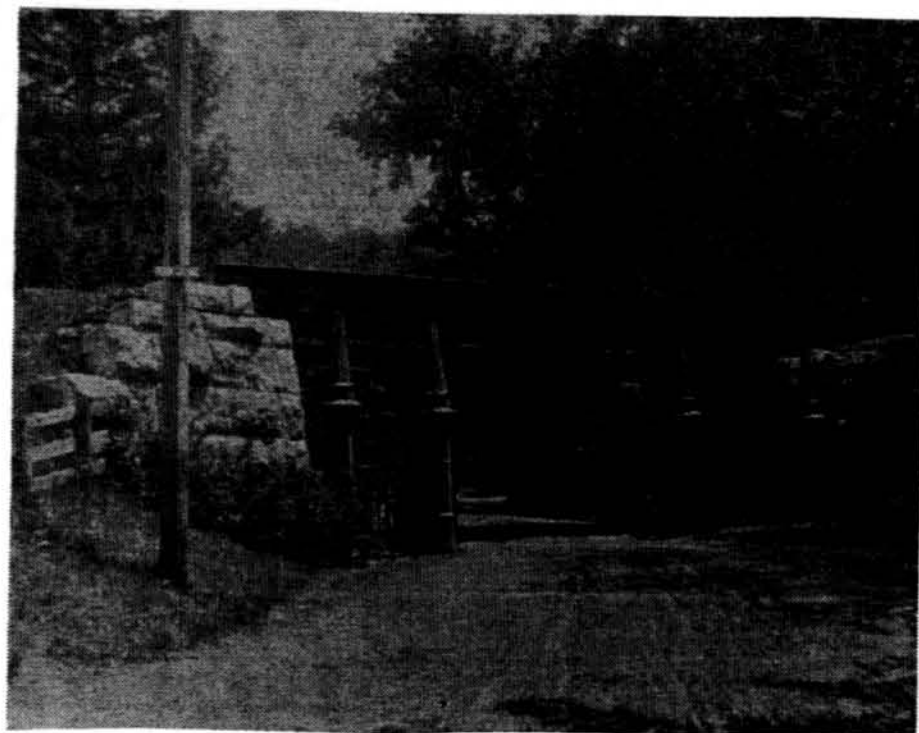


Figure 3.7 View of original iron Gate and Bridge from outside the cemetery, circa 1860s (Oakwood Cemetery Association).

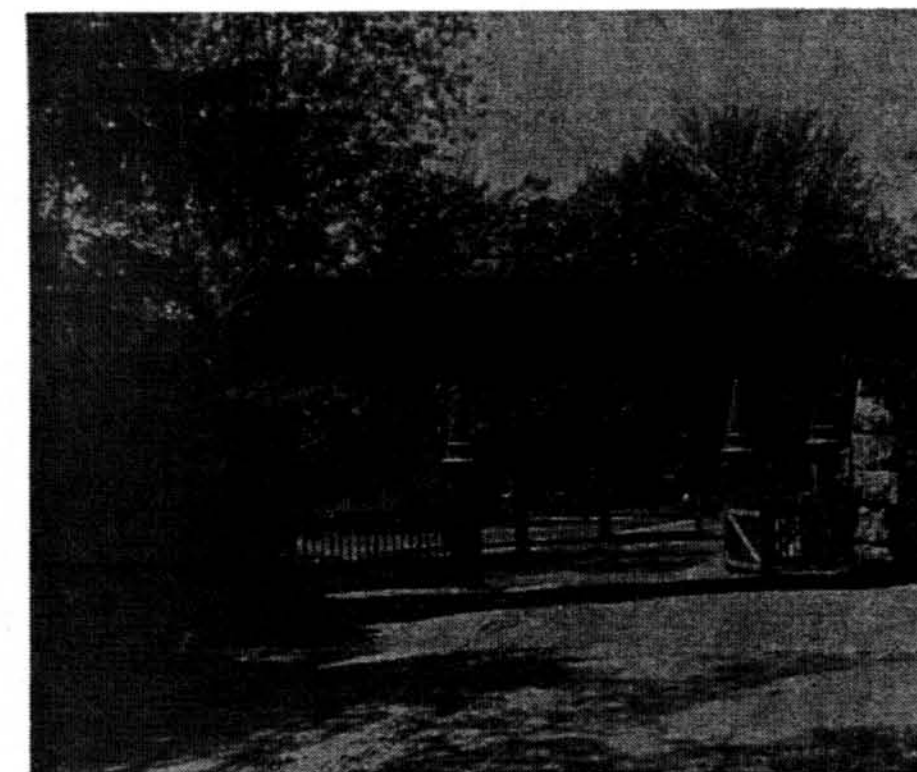


Figure 3.8 View of original iron Gate and Bridge from inside the cemetery, circa 1860s (Oakwood Cemetery Association).



The Lodge: The care-taker's cottage, known as the "Lodge", was constructed in 1862 east of the railroad tracks and adjacent to the original Gate and Bridge (see figure 3.2). A circa 1862 photograph of the Lodge soon after construction illustrates the simple, gabled building. The Lodge was frame construction with a board and batten cladding, a double gothic arch doorway and decorative upper windows (see figure 3.9). A photograph taken in 1878, sixteen years later, shows the Lodge surrounded by several trees (see figure 3.10).

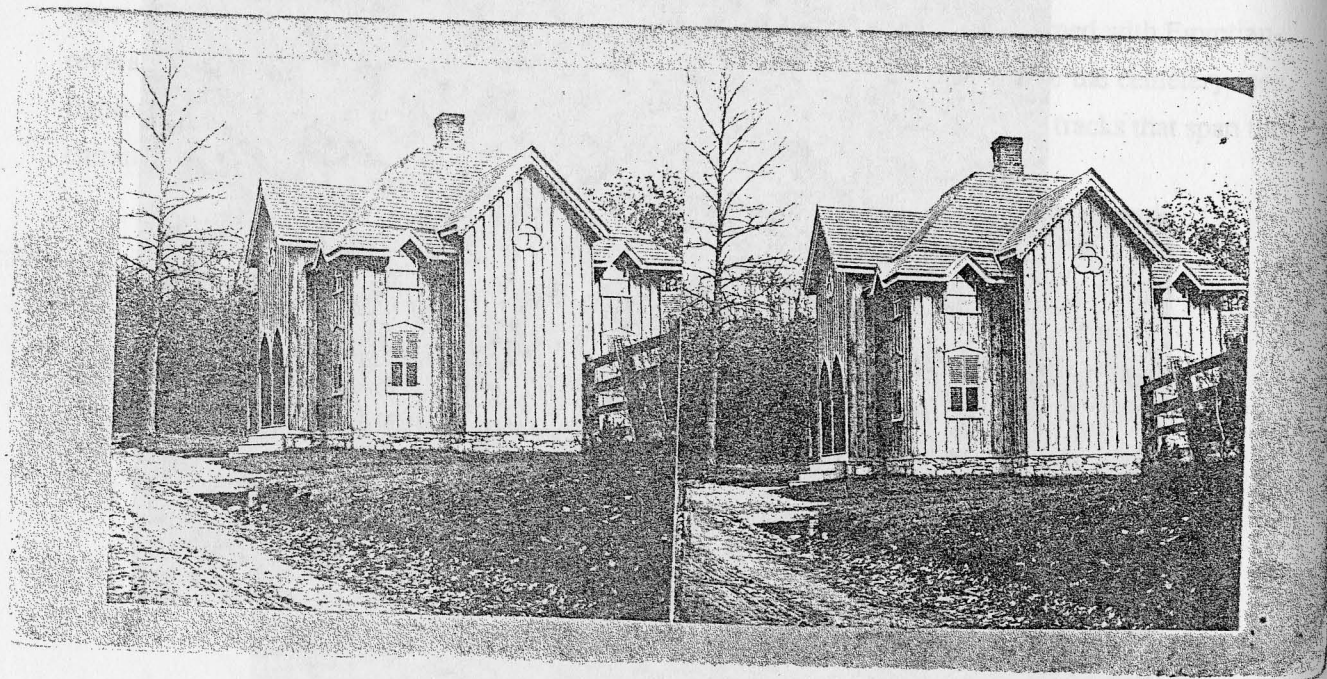


Figure 3.9 View of the Lodge, circa 1862 (Onondaga Historical Association).

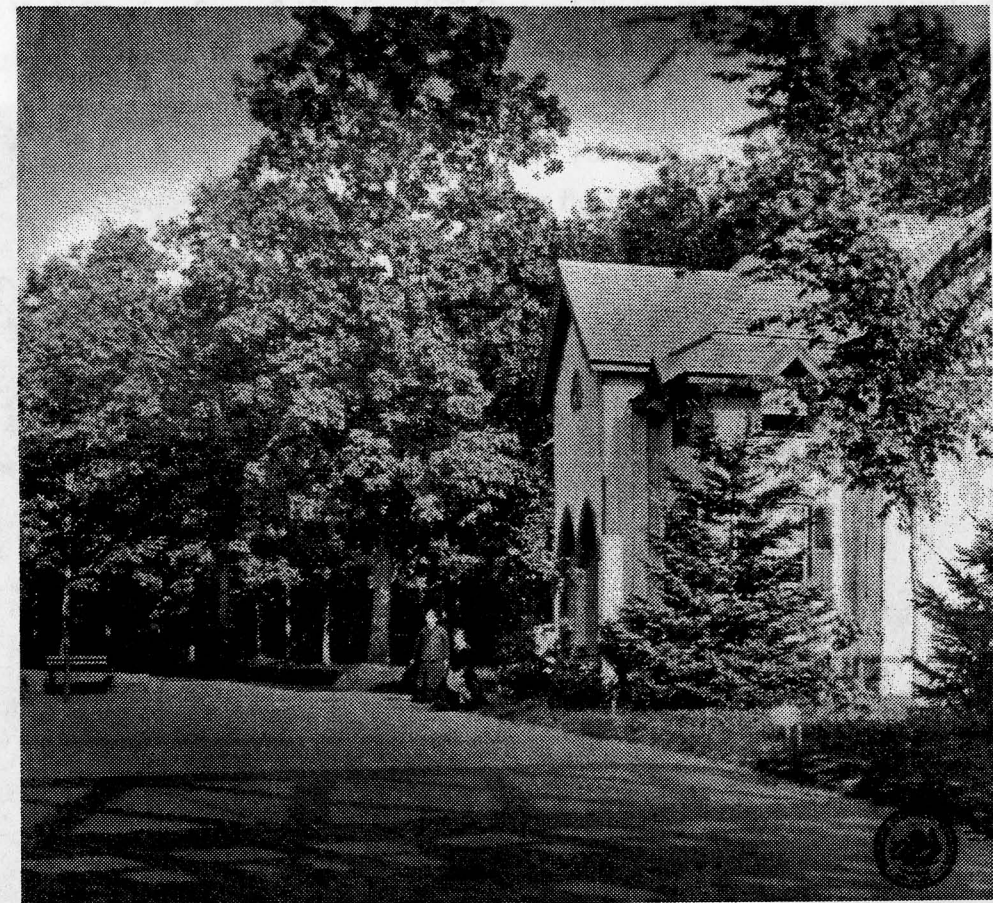


Figure 3.10 Later view of the Lodge, 1878 (Onondaga Historical Association).



**Chapel:** The Chapel, designed by Joseph Silsbee, was constructed in 1879 east of the Lodge on Midland Avenue (see figure 3.3). The 1880 view of the Chapel illustrates how the Chapel and receiving vault were built into the steep slope of the ridge to the north (see figure 3.11). The Victorian Gothic style Chapel was built of Onondaga limestone, and had unique architectural details such as a steep-pitched slate roof with terra-cotta coping, a Gothic-arched porte-cochere, a high central tower and two rear "chimney pot"-like vent stacks.<sup>100</sup>



Figure 3.11 View of the Chapel, circa 1880 (Onondaga Historical Association).

**Barn:** The Barn was constructed in circa 1891 east of the Entry Area (see figure 3.3). No period views of the Barn are available. The Barn was a gambrel-roofed, wood frame building built for storage. At the time of its construction a woodland area between the Entry Area and the Barn blocked views of the storage Barn from Midland Avenue.

**1902 Gate and Bridge:** The Gate and Bridge, constructed in 1902 replaced the original Gate and Bridge on the western boundary of the cemetery (see figure 3.4). A circa 1902 photograph illustrates the Romanesque Gate and Bridge designed by the architecture firm, H. Q. French and Company of New York City (see figure 3.12). The 1902 Gate and Bridge was a Romanesque style structure that "... included a twenty-five foot wide arch under which visitors used to enter the cemetery grounds, and over which--between pairs of stone abutments with square corner piers--trains from the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad once passed."<sup>101</sup> The 1902 Gate and Bridge included an iron fence and gate located on the west side of the bridge (see figure 3.12).



Figure 3.12 View of 1902 Gate and Bridge, circa 1902 (Oakwood Cemetery Association).



**Superintendent's house:** The superintendent's house was constructed in 1902 on the west side of the DL&W Railroad tracks, just outside the cemetery entrance (see figure 3.4). No view of the superintendent's house is available. The superintendent's house was located on a triangular piece of land that served as an extension of the Entry Area in order to welcome visitors who arrived by train on the Oakwood Railway or by carriage on Renwick and Oakwood Avenues.

**Office:** The Office was constructed in 1902 east of the Lodge on Midland Avenue (see figure 3.4). One early postcard view of the Office soon after construction illustrates the Romanesque style building that was designed by the New York City architectural firm of H. Q. French and Company which specialized in monument and vault design (see figure 3.13). The Office and the 1902 Gate and Bridge were both designed by H. Q. French and had similar features such as the square tower of the Office and the corner piers of the 1902 Gate and Bridge (see figures 3.12 and 3.13).

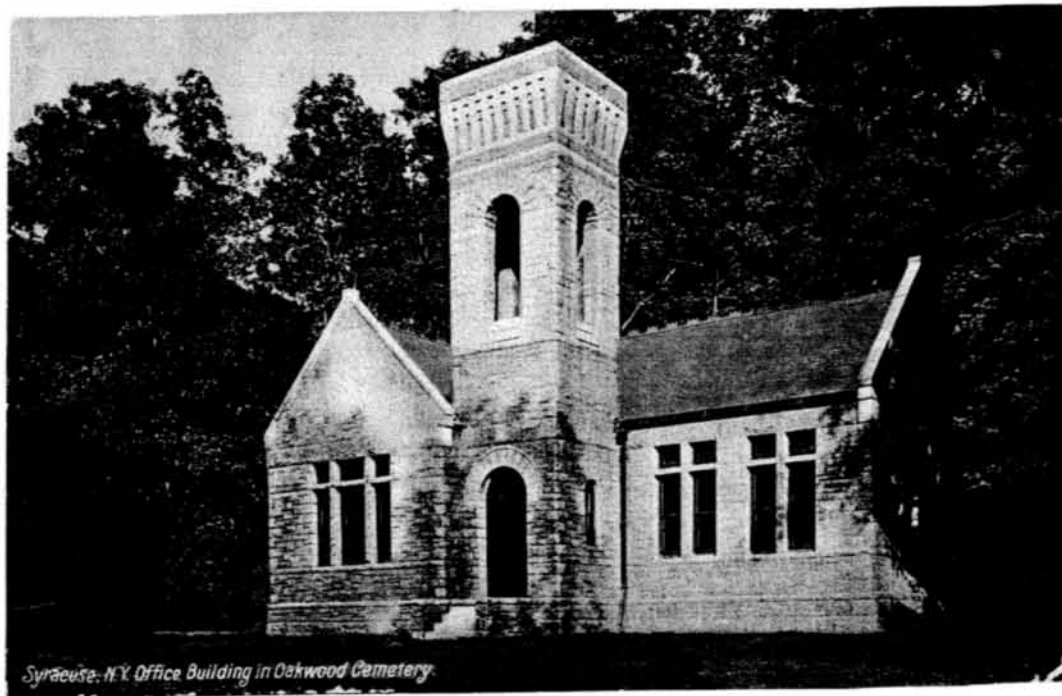


Figure 3.13 Post card view of the Office constructed in 1902 (G.W. Curry Collection).

**Greenhouse:** The Greenhouse and Palmhouse were constructed in 1902 west of the Chapel on Midland Avenue (see figure 3.4). A period postcard illustrates how the Greenhouse, located to the rear, was built into the ridge to the north (see figure 3.14). The Palmhouse had a stone masonry base (see figure 3.15).

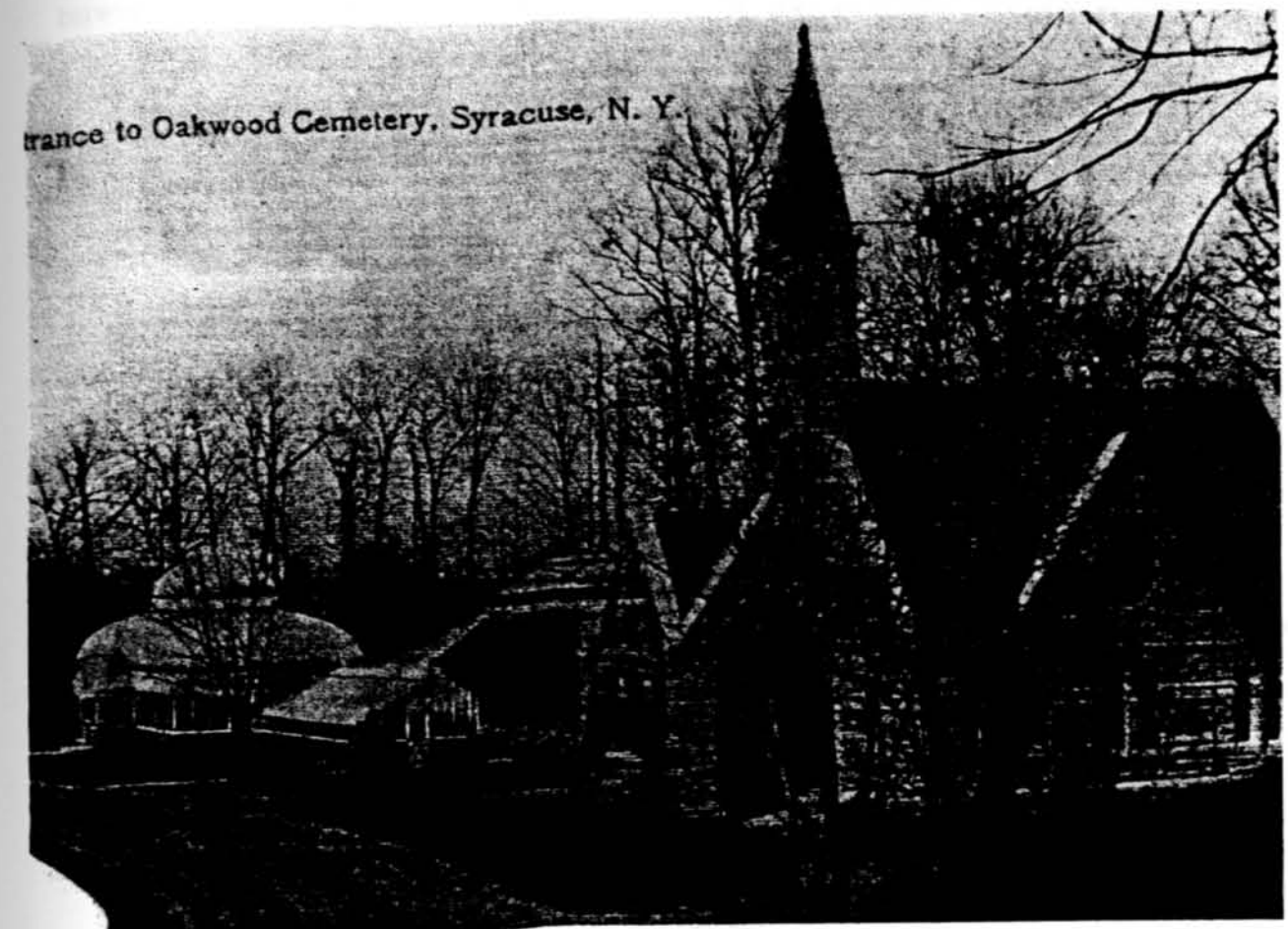


Figure 3.14 Postcard of Chapel and Greenhouse, circa 1902, postmarked 1916 (Christine Lozner Collection).

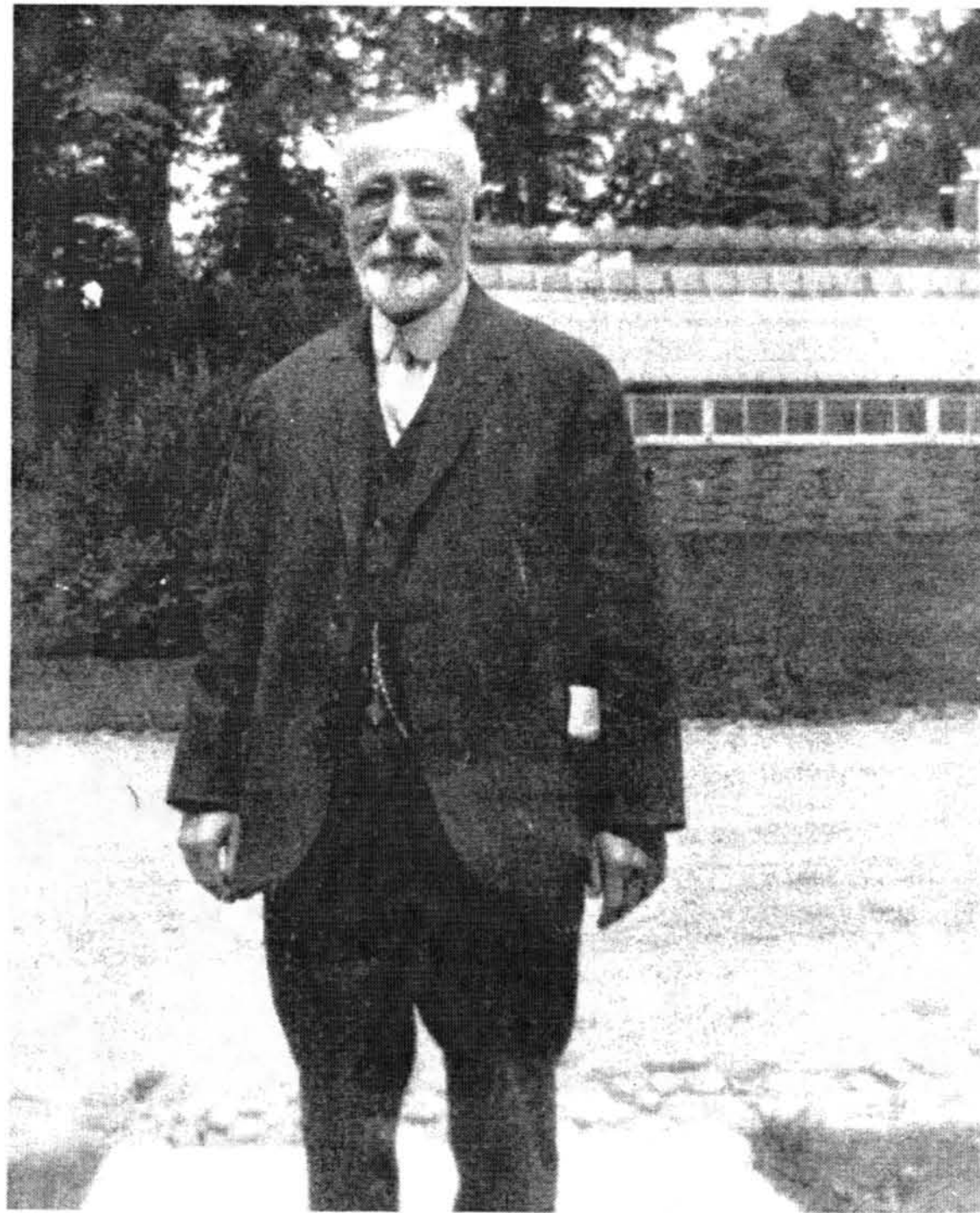


Figure 3.15 View of Greenhouse and Palmhouse illustrating stone masonry base, no date (Oakwood Cemetery Association).

### Vegetation

The vegetation in the Entry Area consisted of both woodland areas and vegetation associated with individual buildings. The woodland areas provided enclosure that defined the Entry Area as a space within the cemetery. The vegetation located around each building provided variety and a formal character to the Entry Area. Vegetation associated with the Lodge, Chapel, Office, and Greenhouse is described. There was no information found regarding vegetation associated with the superintendent's house.

The Lodge: The 1878 photograph illustrates several trees located around the Lodge (see figure 3.10). One black oak (*Quercus velutina*) is visible to the east of the Lodge on Midland Avenue.<sup>102</sup> Two blue spruce (*Picea pungens*) are located to the west of the Lodge, and a deciduous tree is located between the two blue spruces (see figure 3.10 and 3.16).<sup>103</sup> The Lodge was surrounded by woodland areas that bordered Midland Avenue and the Lodge to the south.

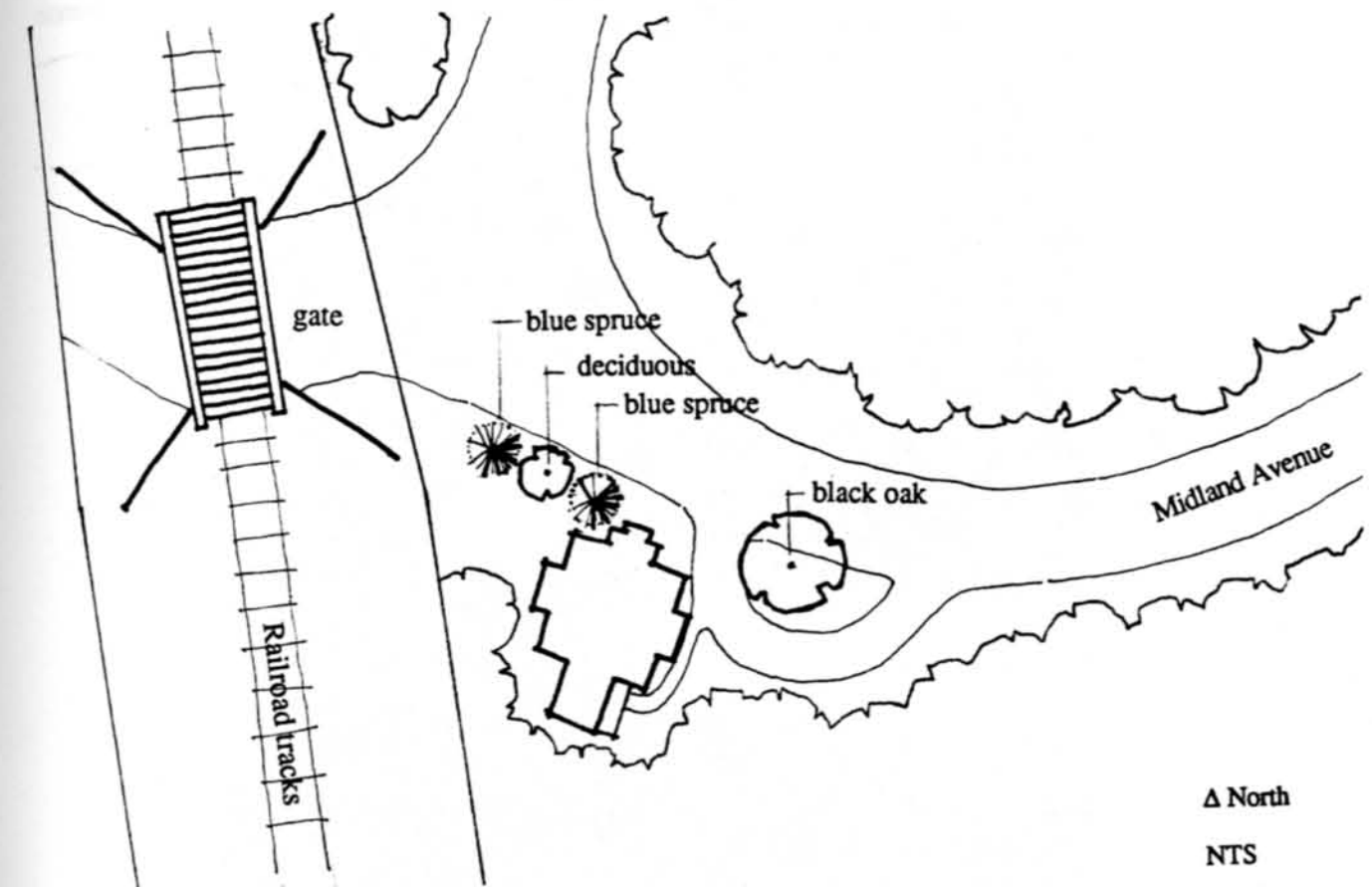


Figure 3.16 Plan of the Lodge, circa 1878 (Day, 1993).



**Chapel:** Six photographs document the vegetation located around the Chapel. The kidney-shaped area directly in front of the Chapel contained a variety of plantings that changed over time and are documented by six photographs: circa 1880, 1885, 1890, 1899, circa 1902, and 1935.

The circa 1880 photograph taken shortly after the Chapel was constructed illustrates four small shrubs or trees spaced evenly along Midland Avenue (see figure 3.11 and 3.17). Two deciduous trees are located at the east and west ends of the kidney-shaped area. The Chapel was surrounded by woodland areas that extended to the west toward the DL&W Railroad tracks.

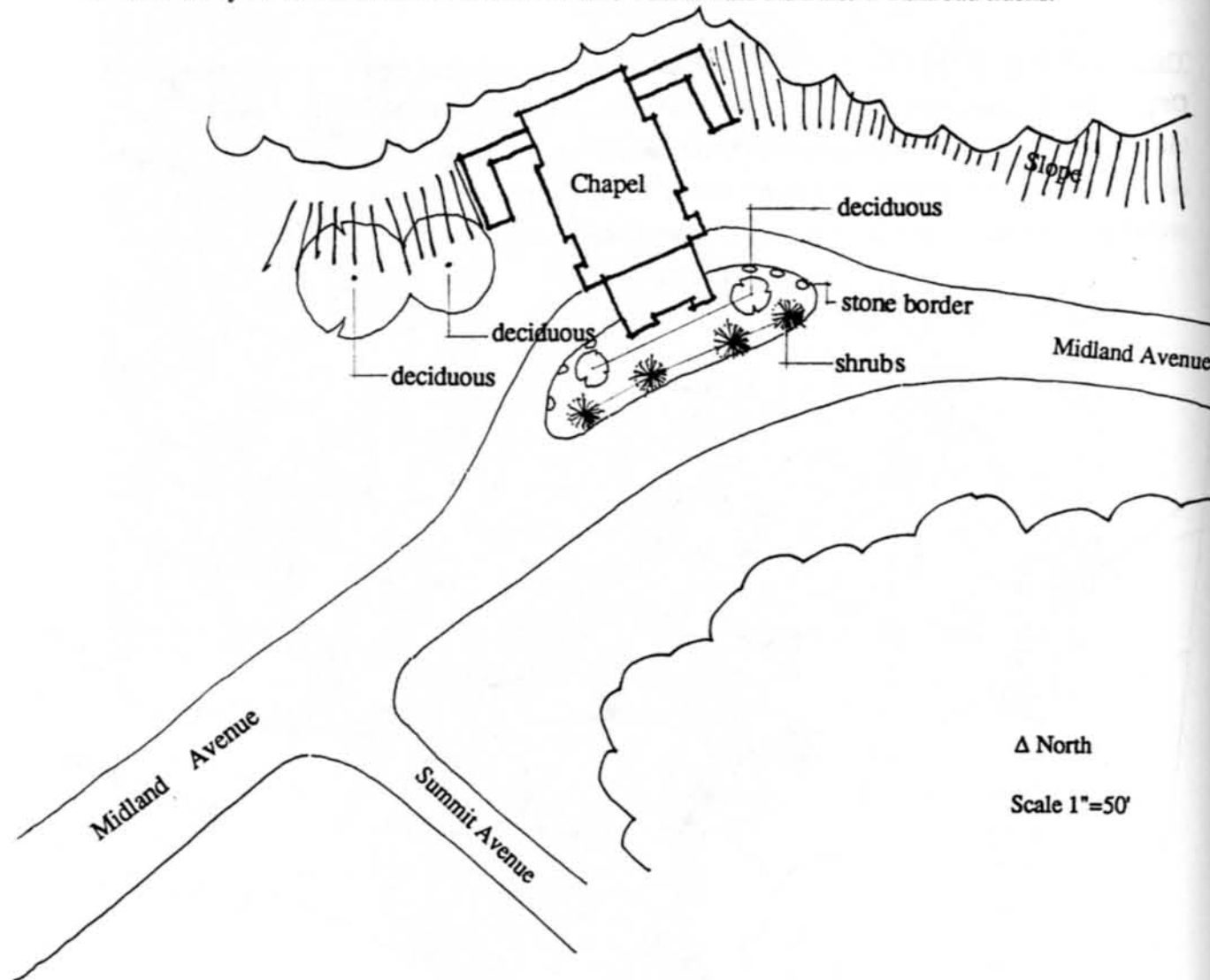


Figure 3.17 Plan of Chapel, circa 1880 (Day, 1993).

The circa 1885 photograph illustrates only a portion of the kidney-shaped area (see figure 3.18), showing one deciduous tree located on the east end of the kidney-shaped area. This tree is probably one of the trees visible in the 1880 photograph (see figure 3.11 and 3.17). No other vegetation is visible in this view. The Chapel was surrounded by woodland areas that extended to the west toward the DW&L Railroad tracks.

The circa 1890 photograph illustrates several trees around the Chapel (see figure 3.19). The tree to the east of the Chapel is a cucumber magnolia (*Magnolia acuminata*) and exists today. The form and shape of the other five trees located around the Chapel are similar to the cucumber magnolia and, therefore it is probable that they also were cucumber magnolias (see figure 3.20). The photograph also illustrates other vegetation located in the kidney-shaped area of the Chapel. Several shrubs are located on the east and west ends of the kidney-shaped area and a formal flower bed is located in the center, directly south of the porte-cochere. The planting bed is circular and the flowers are planted in a formal, arranged pattern (see figure 3.19 and 3.20). The Chapel was surrounded by woodland areas that extended to the west toward the DW&L Railroad tracks.



Figure 3.18 View of the Chapel, circa 1885 (Onondaga Historical Association).

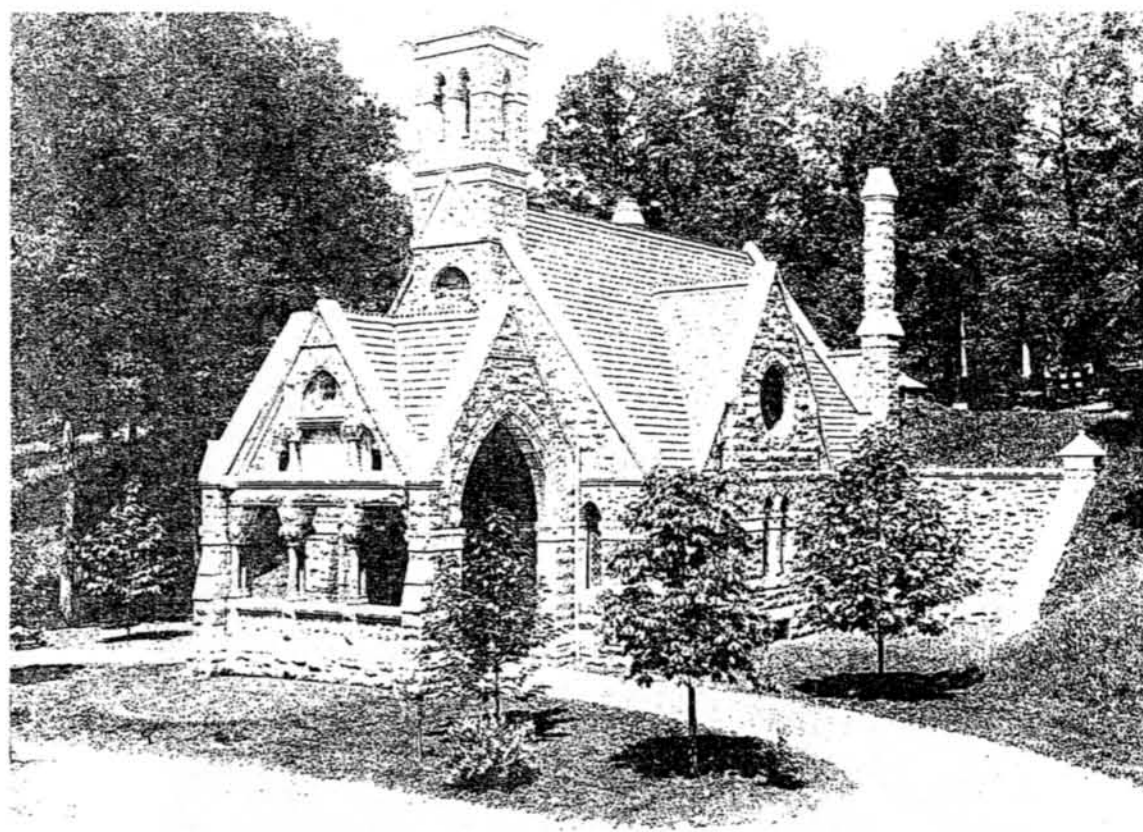


Figure 3.19 View of the Chapel, circa 1890 (Onondaga Historical Association).

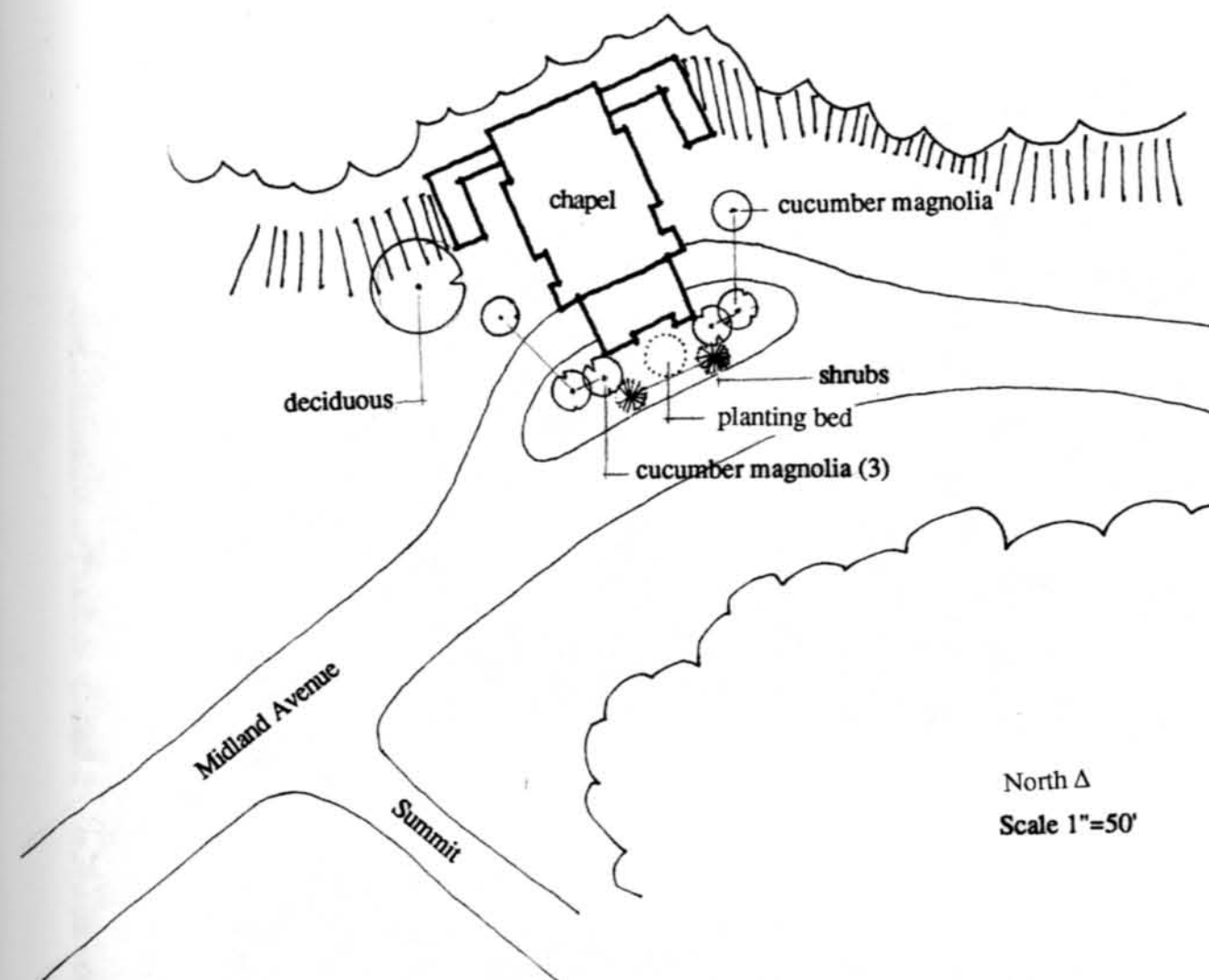


Figure 3.20 Plan of the Chapel, circa 1890 (Day, 1994).



The 1899 photograph illustrates a variety of vegetation located around the Chapel and along Midland Avenue (see figure 3.21). The cucumber magnolia trees that existed in the kidney-shaped area have been removed and replaced with blue spruce and a number of shrubs (see figure 3.22). The photograph also illustrates two planting areas south of Midland Avenue to the west and east of Summit Avenue. One contains lilies (*Lilium sp.*) and one contains lilies and a planting bed of flowers which appear to be pansies (see figure 3.22). The photograph illustrates the slope of the ridge to the north and east of the Chapel covered with tall, herbaceous vegetation. The Chapel was surrounded by woodland areas.



Figure 3.21 View of Chapel, circa 1899 (Onondaga Historical Association).

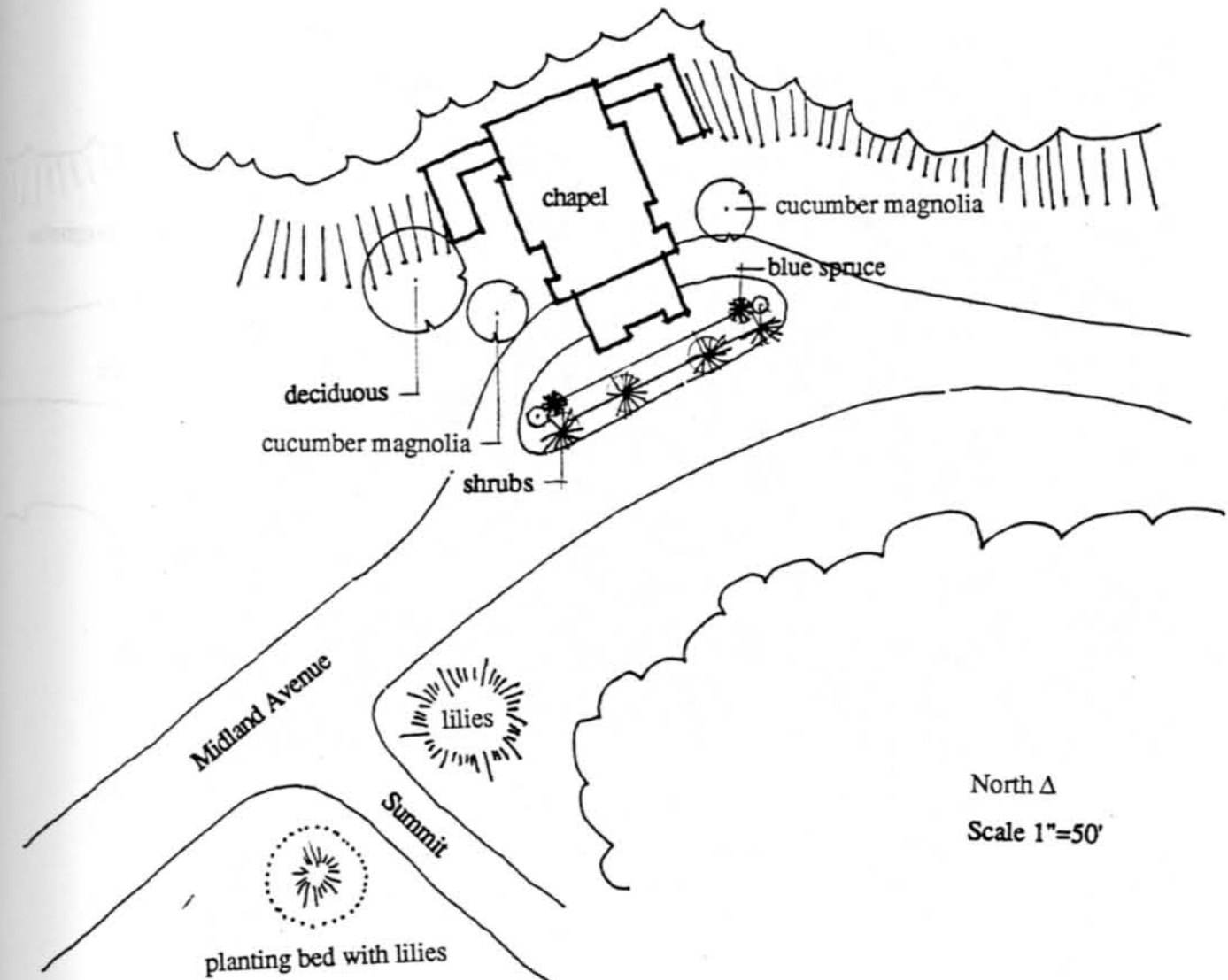


Figure 3.22 Plan of chapel, circa 1899 (Day, 1994).

The circa 1902 postcard view of the Chapel illustrates the two blue spruces at the east and west ends of the kidney-shaped area that were documented in 1899.<sup>104</sup> Deciduous trees in the foreground of the photograph border the road leading to the Chapel (see figures 3.14 and 3.23). The Chapel was surrounded by woodland areas.

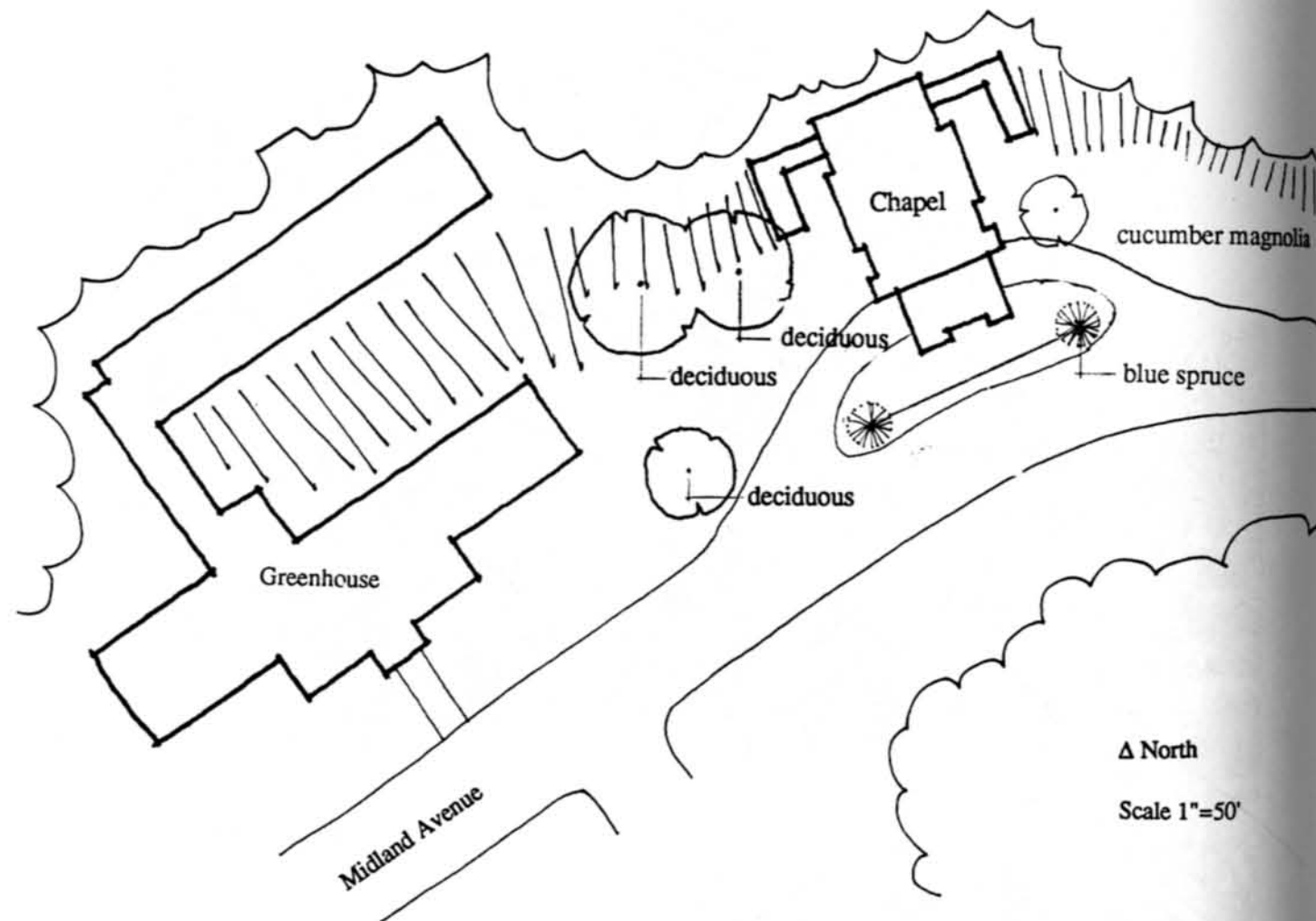


Figure 3.23 Plan of Chapel, circa 1902 (Day, 1993).

The 1935 photograph of the Chapel illustrates additional plantings in the area (see figure 3.24). The two blue spruce trees documented in 1899 and 1902 have matured, and a number of shrubs have been planted. Although the shrubs vary in size and shape, they were organized by their symmetrical planting arrangement (see figure 3.25). The Chapel was surrounded by woodland areas.

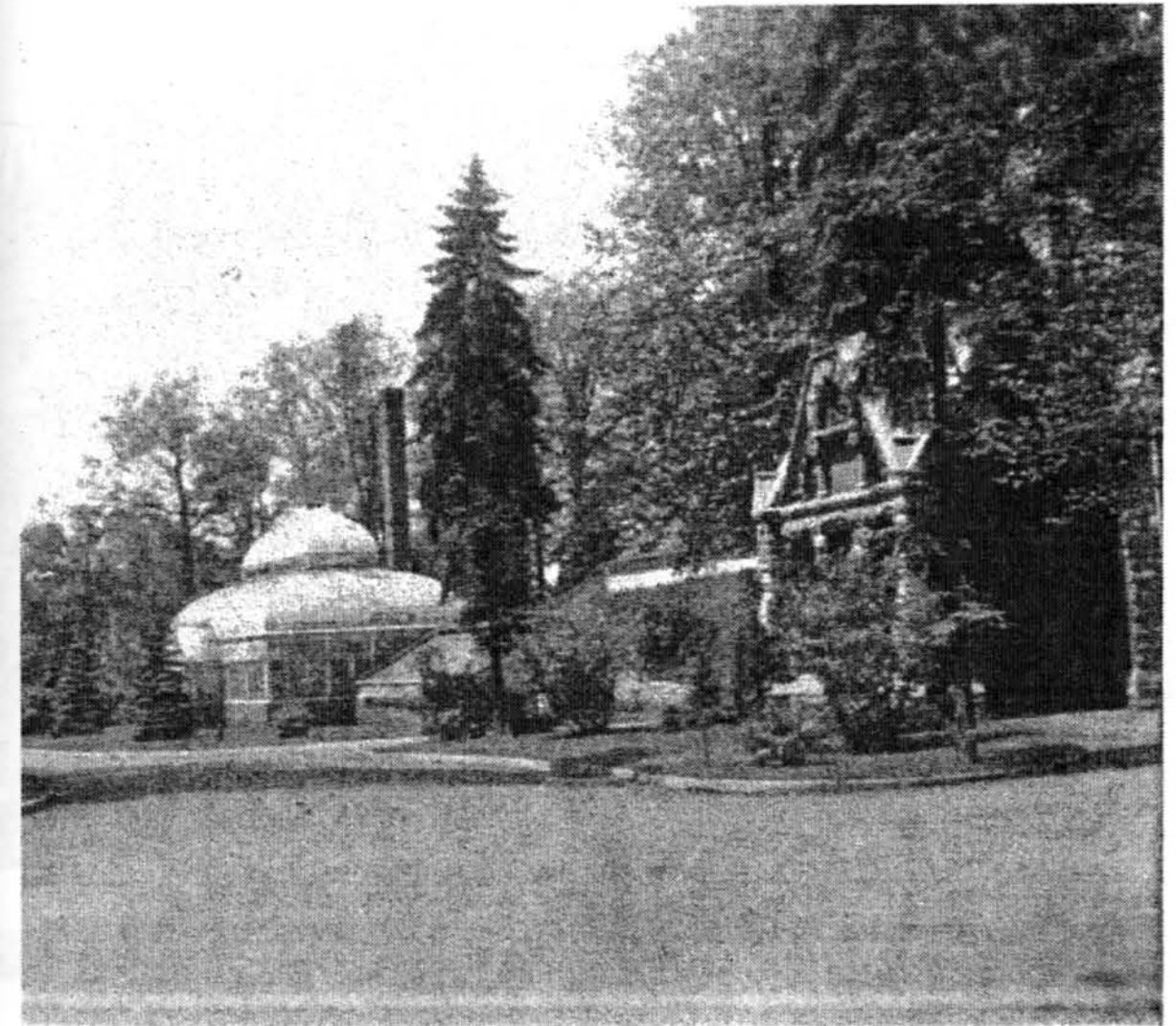


Figure 3.24 View of Chapel, circa 1935 (Oakwood Cemetery Association).



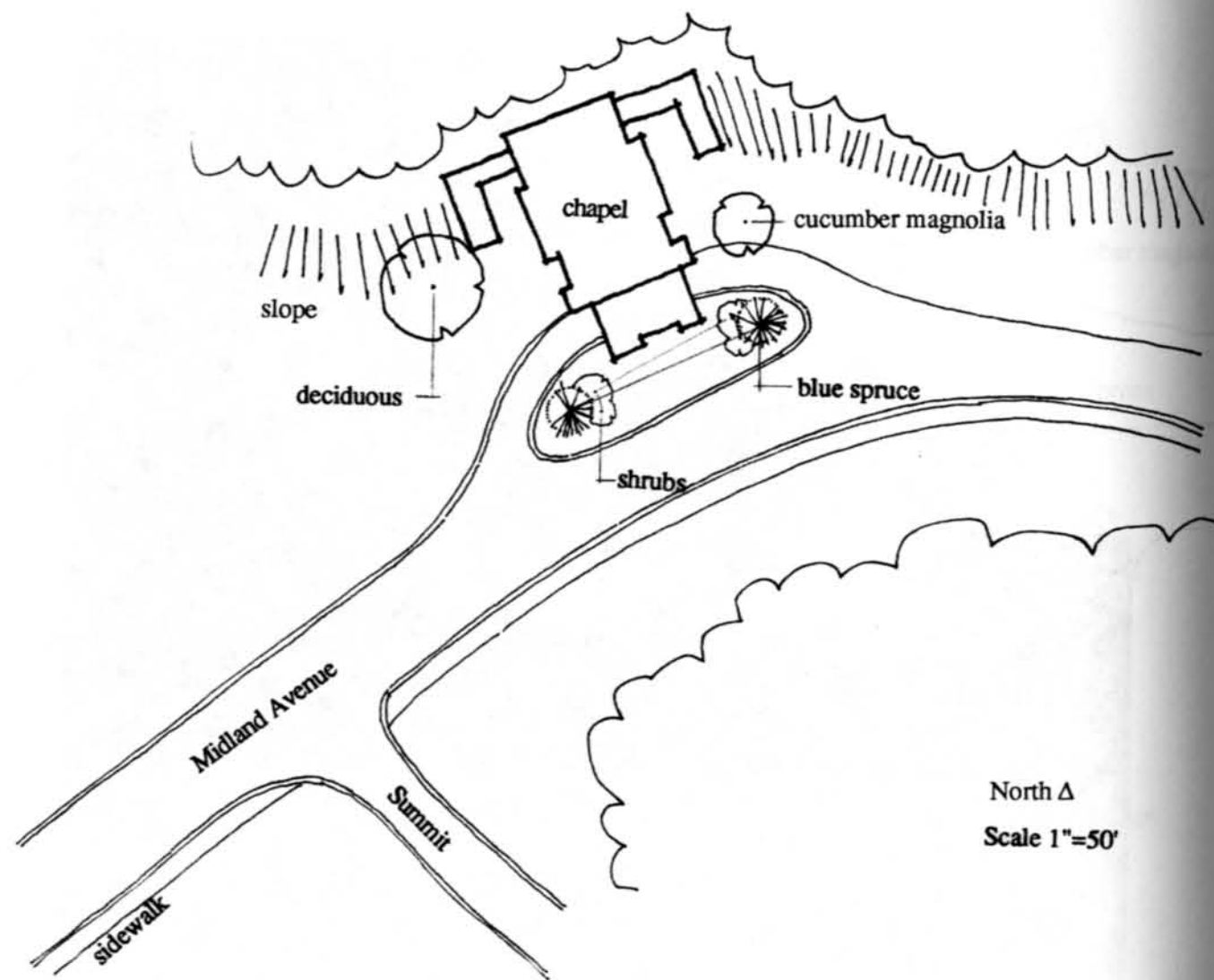


Figure 3.25 Plan of Chapel, 1935 (Day, 1994).

Office: A circa 1920s photograph illustrates four shrubs located around the entrance and foundation of the Office (see figure 3.26). There were two shrubs on each side of the entrance, one in the corner formed by the tower, and one at the south-west corner of the building (see figure 3.27). A mass of low ground cover, or a low spreading shrub, was located to the south of the Office. The Office was surrounded by woodland areas to the south.

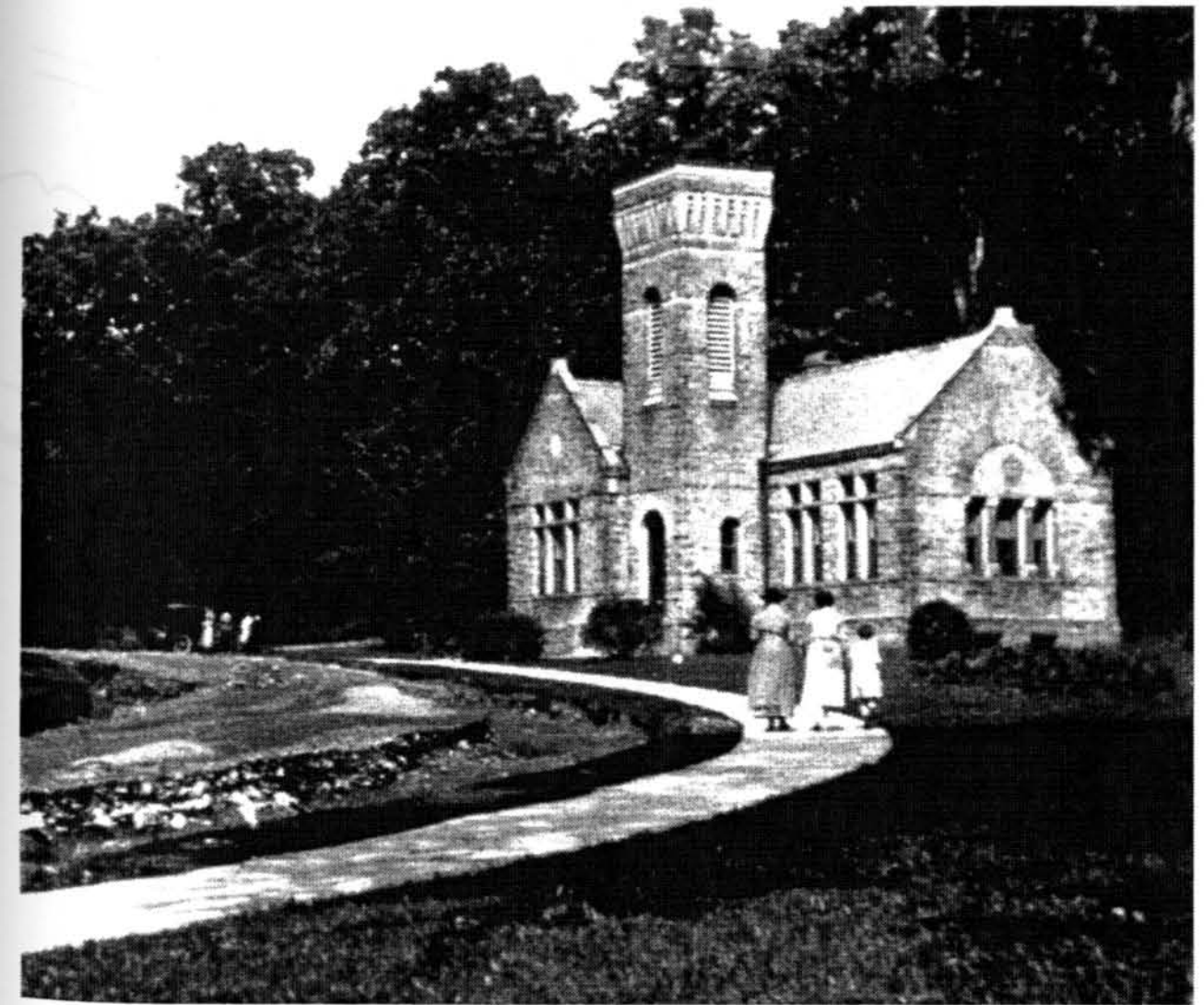


Figure 3.26 View of Office, circa 1920s (Oakwood Cemetery Association).

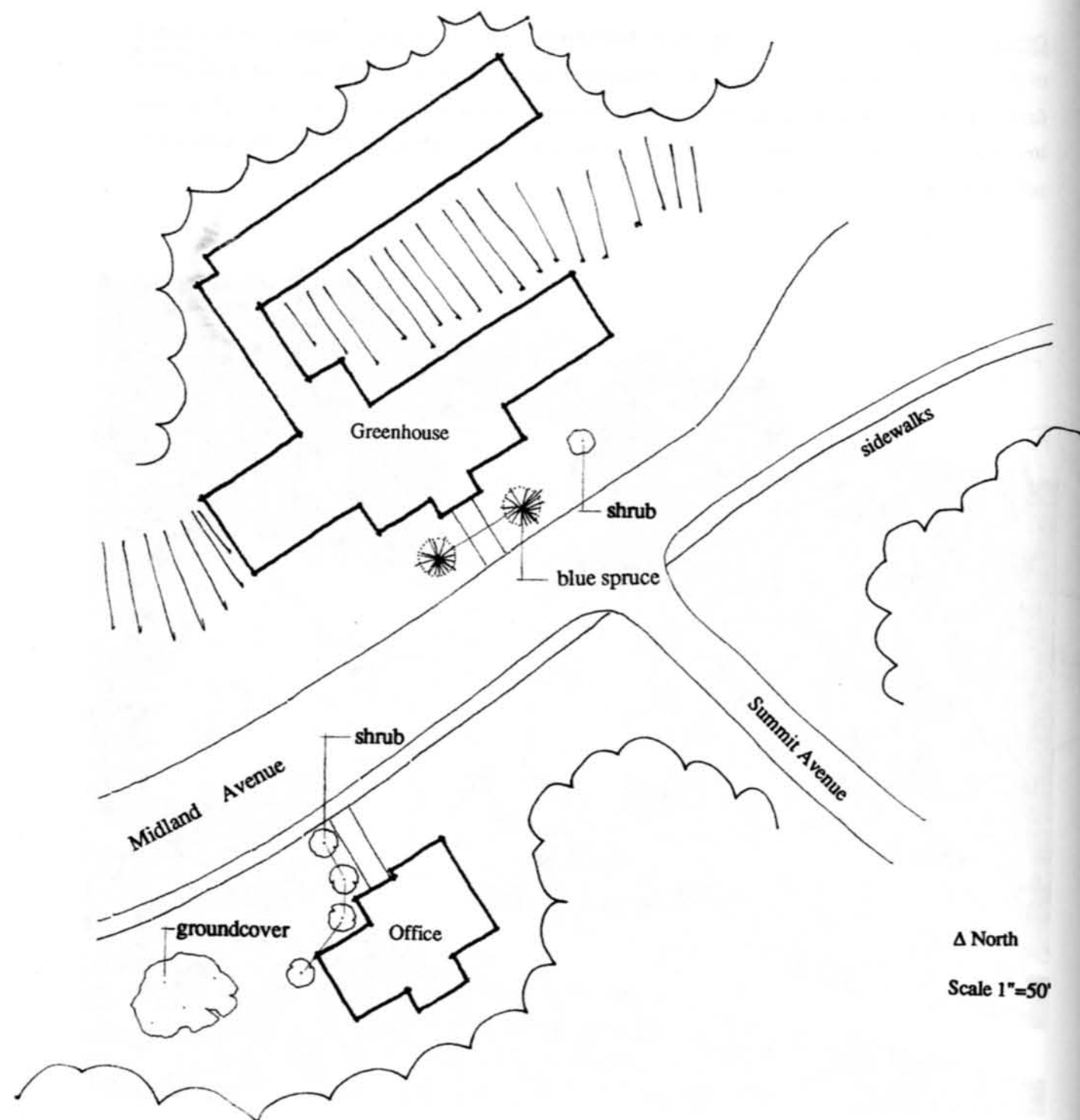


Figure 3.27 Plan of area around Office and Greenhouse, circa 1920s (Day, 1993).

**Greenhouse:** The circa 1935 photograph of the Chapel and Greenhouse illustrates several trees located around the Greenhouse (see figure 3.24). Two blue spruce trees were located at each side of the entrance to the Greenhouse and one deciduous tree was located at the east corner (see figure 3.27)<sup>105</sup>. The Greenhouse was surrounded by woodland areas to the north and west.

**Woodland:** The period photographs of the 1902 Gate and Bridge, Lodge, Chapel, Office and Greenhouse each illustrate the woodland areas that surrounded the Entry Area. The woodland areas lined Midland Avenue and Dedication Valley and provided a border around the Entry Area. The woodland areas visually separated the Entry Area from the other parts of the cemetery (see figure 3.28). The woodland are original woodlands and the species included black oak, red oak, white oak, white pine, white ash, sugar maple, red maple, pignut hickory, and shagbark hickory.

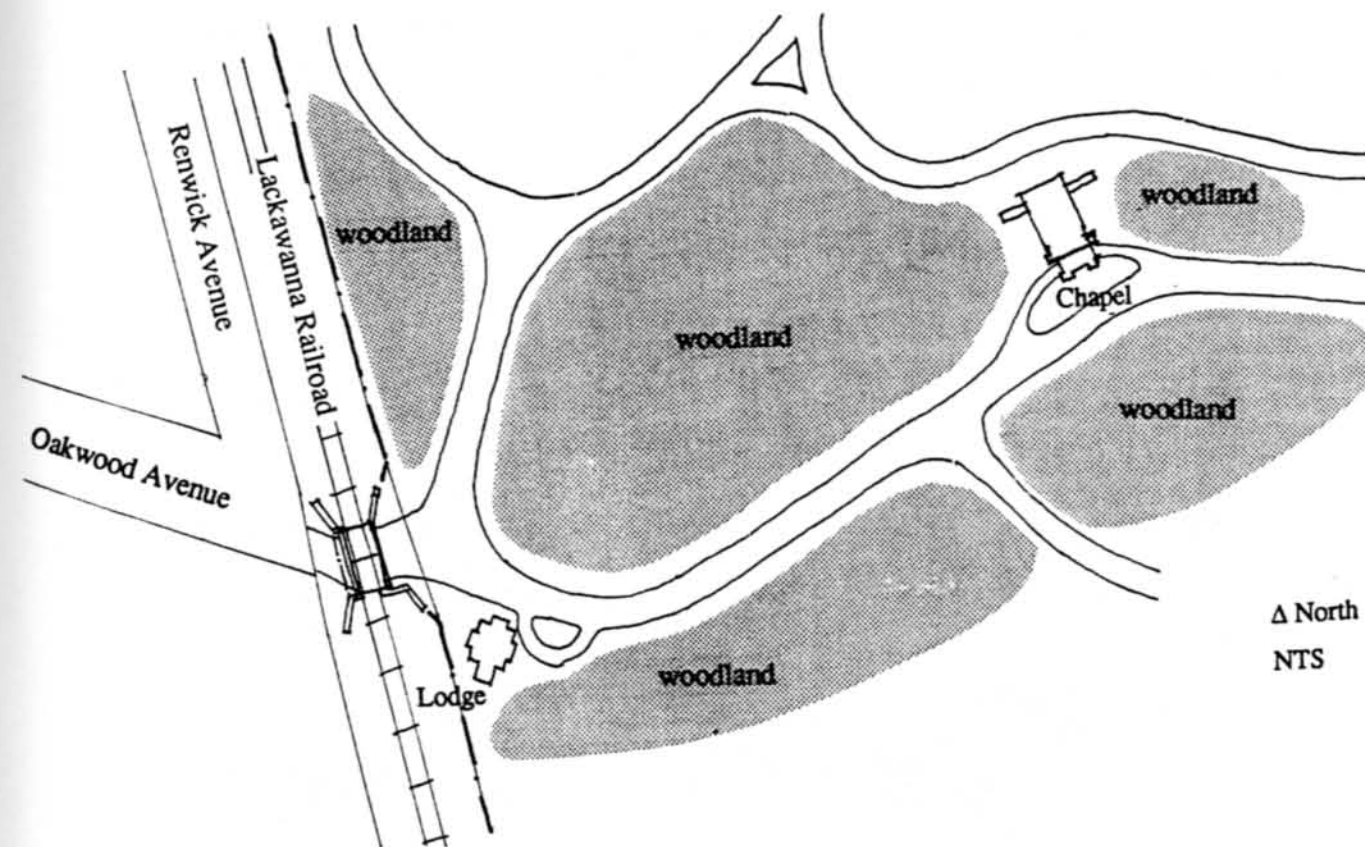


Figure 3.28 Diagram illustrating woodland areas in Entry Area 1860s (Day, 1993).



### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Entry Area was integral to the entry sequence of the cemetery. In the 1860s, the spatial organization was defined by the original Gate and Bridge, circulation, elevated DW&L Railroad tracks, woodland areas, and the Lodge. The visitor arrived at the Gate by train on the Oakwood Railway or by carriage on Oakwood and Renwick Avenues. The sequence of spaces was linear and enclosed due to topography, circulation, and woodland areas. Upon entering the cemetery, views were blocked by the topography. Views were directed north or south along the roads. Most visitors would travel east along Midland Avenue. As the visitor traveled east on Midland Avenue the woodland areas on both sides opened slightly to a clearing that delineated a space in front of the Lodge (see figure 3.29). The Lodge was the only building located in the Entry Area at this time. A bench located at the perimeter of the space and a semi-circular turn-around east of the Lodge further defined the function of the area as a stopping point (see figure 3.10 and 3.29).

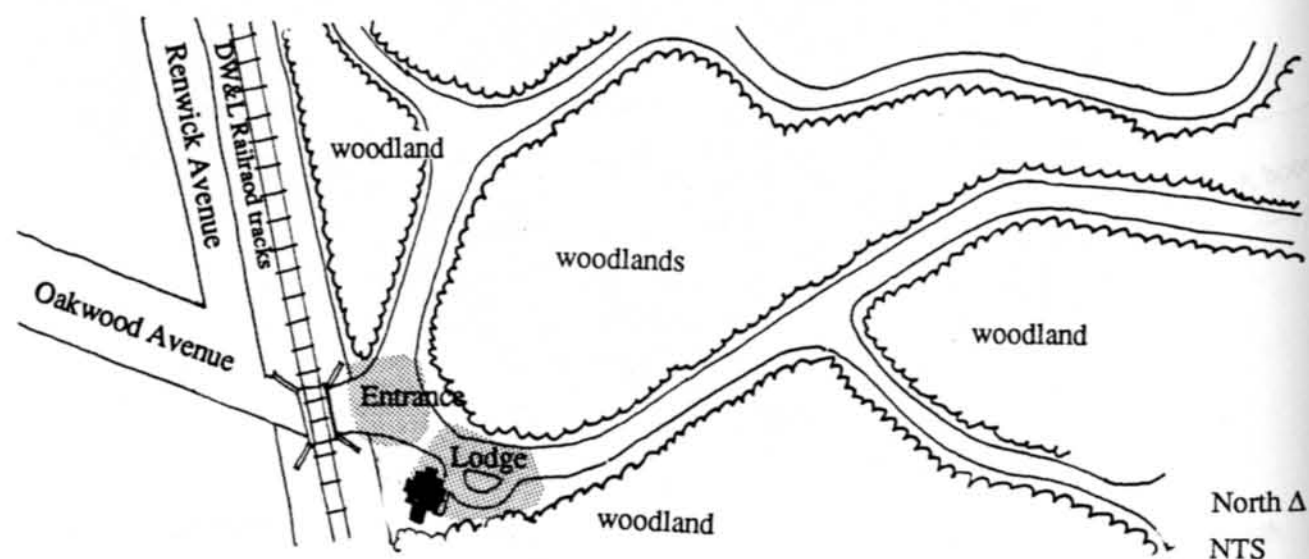


Figure 3.29 Spatial Organization Diagram of Entry Area, circa 1859-1879 (Day, 1993).

The spatial organization of the Entry Area changed by 1902 with the addition of the Chapel, 1902 Gate and Bridge, Greenhouse, Office, and the superintendent's house and park located to the west of the DW&L Railroad tracks. The addition of these buildings added complexity to the entry sequence; each building defined an additional space and provided a focal point that drew the visitors through the Entry Area and into the cemetery (see figure 3.30).

The spatial organization created a defined entry sequence. The entry sequence started at Oakwood Avenue and the park-like setting that surrounded the superintendent's house. The 1902 Gate and Bridge, with its four Romanesque towers, announced the cemetery entrance to visitors who arrived on the Oakwood Railway or by carriage on Oakwood Avenue. As a monument itself, the bridge was the first of many to be seen within the cemetery boundaries.

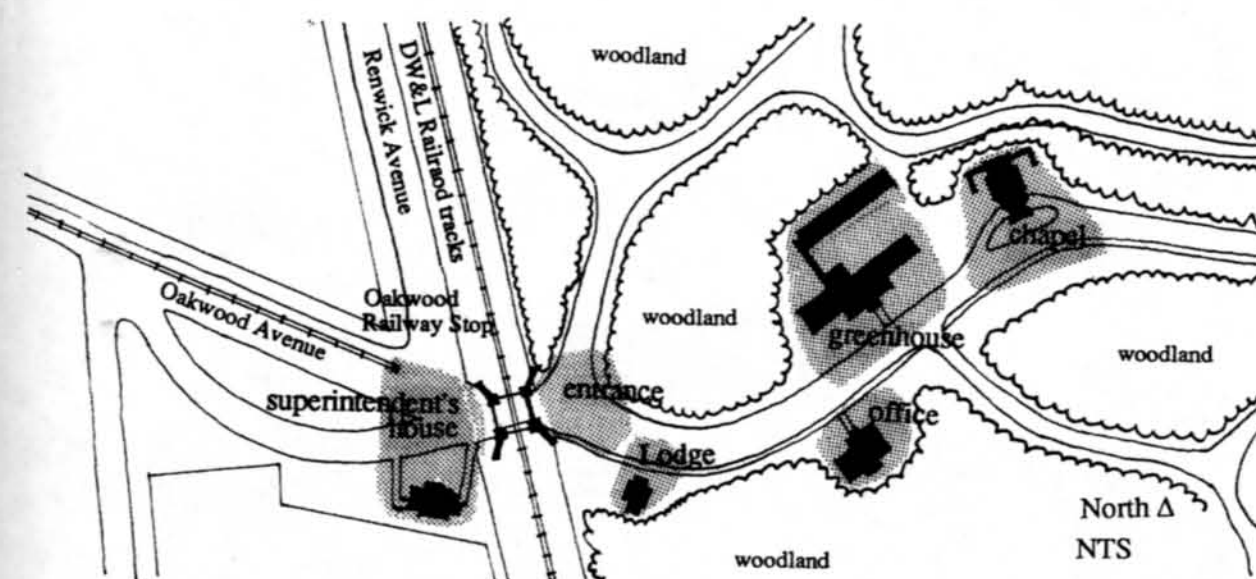


Figure 3.30 Spatial Organization Diagram of Entry Area, circa 1879-1902 (Day, 1993).

Upon entering the cemetery, views were blocked by the topography as in earlier years (see figure 3.31). Views were directed north or south. Most visitors would travel east along Midland Avenue. As the visitor traveled east on Midland Avenue the woodland areas on both sides opened slightly to a clearing that delineated the space in front of the Lodge. The Lodge was the first building the visitor would stop at until it was demolished between 1902 and 1912. Then the visitor would continue along Midland Avenue which was bordered by dense woodland on each side. The linear space of Midland Avenue was further emphasized by the topography which sloped to a considerable height to the north of Midland Avenue. When the visitor reached the Office, Greenhouse, and Chapel area the space widened, but was enclosed by steep slopes behind the Chapel to the north and to the south of Midland Avenue. The Chapel, Greenhouse, and Office were focal points that provided interest and views for the cemetery visitor.

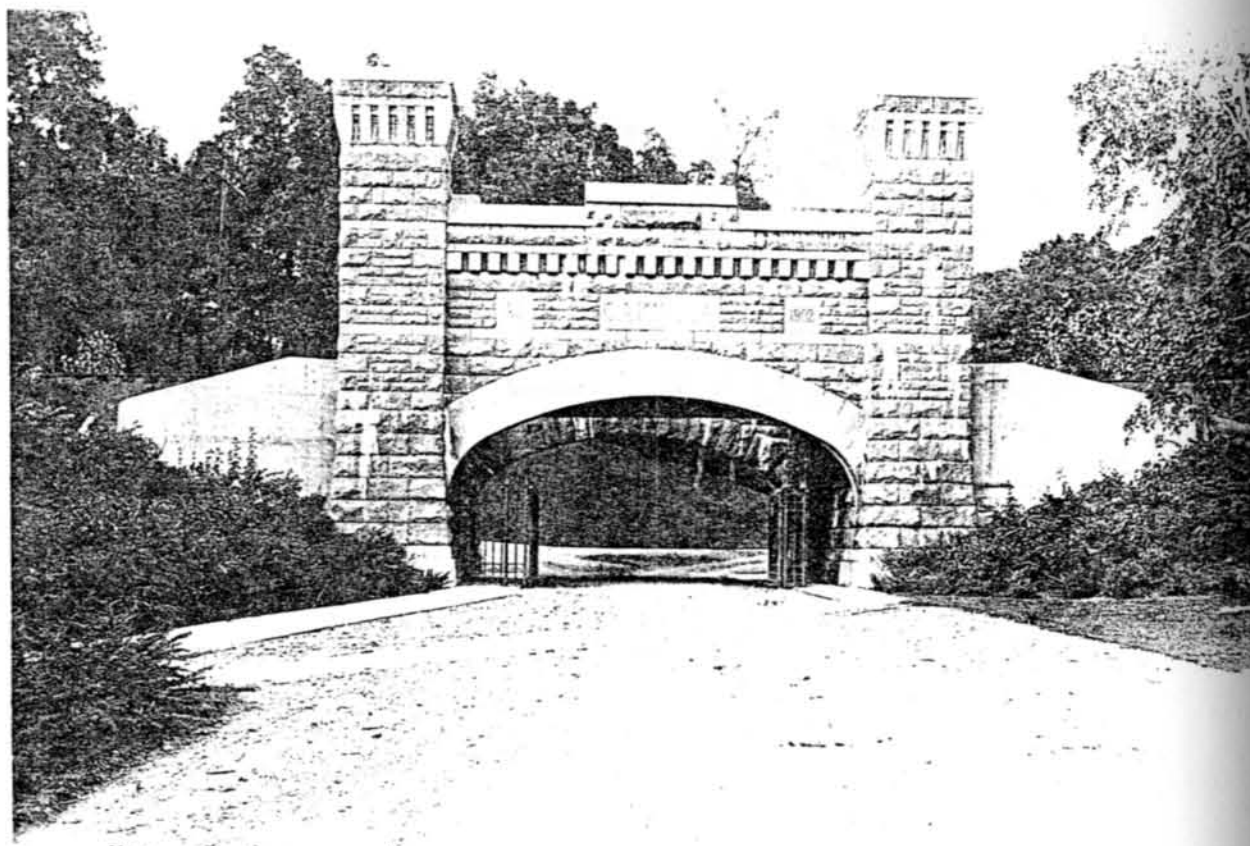


Figure 3.31 View of 1902 Gate and Bridge illustrating topography inside the cemetery, 1912 (Onondaga Historical Association).

### Views and Vistas

The Entry Area offered only internal views: there were no significant views or vistas into other parts of the cemetery from the Entry Area. The vegetation, topography, elevated DW&L Railroad tracks, and woodland areas blocked views from this space and thus created a feeling of enclosure. Internal views within the Entry Area, however, were an important part of the entry sequence. The addition of the Chapel, Office and Greenhouse by 1902 created new compositions; views of the Chapel, Office, and Greenhouse became visible one by one as the visitor proceeded along Midland Avenue. The Chapel served as a focal point for visitors approaching from the Entry Area to the west, and from Midland Avenue to the east. One early postcard illustrates the Chapel as it appeared from the east on Midland Avenue (see figure 3.32).

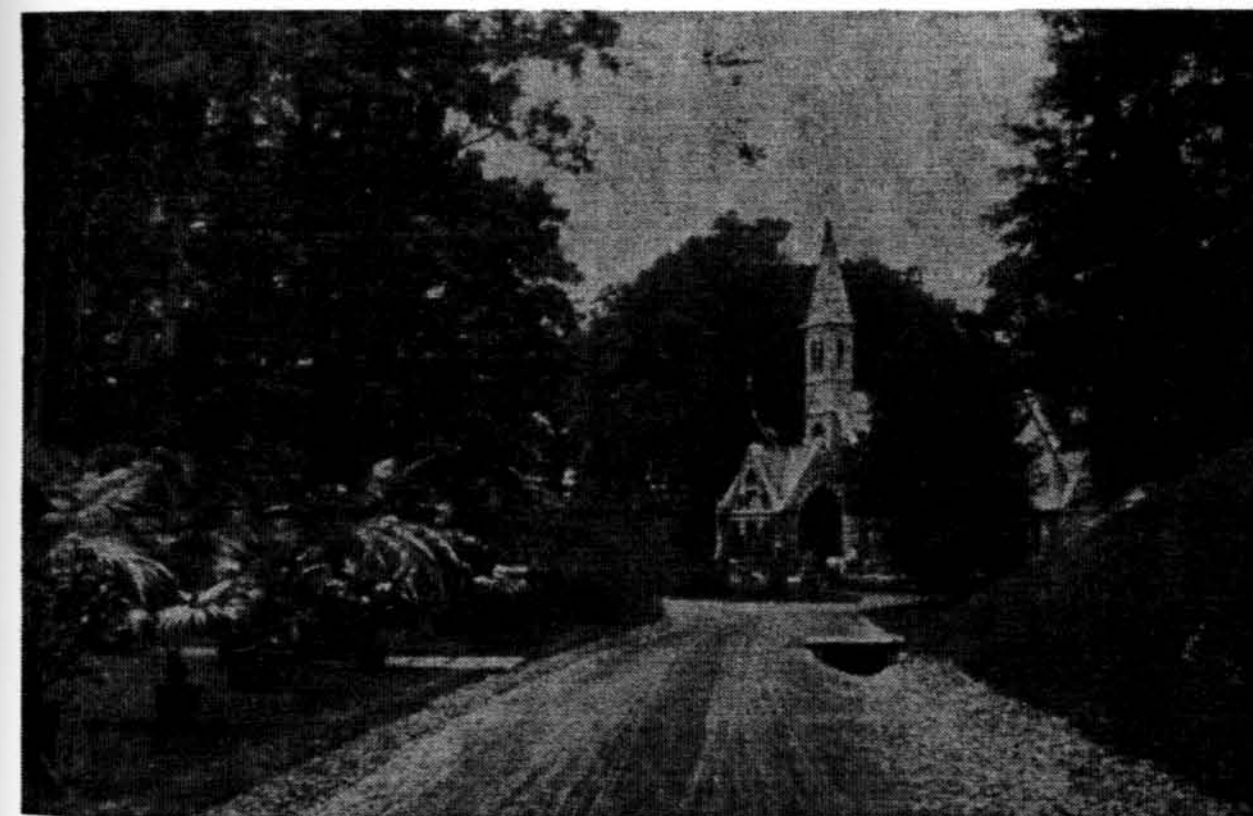


Figure 3.32 Postcard view of the Chapel from the east on Midland Avenue, circa 1880 (Christine Lozner Collection).



## Circulation

The circulation in the Entry Area was the major organizing element in the linear entry sequence of the cemetery. A visitor arrived at the main entrance by train on the Oakwood Railway or by carriage on Renwick and Oakwood Avenues. To access the cemetery grounds in 1859, visitors passed through the iron Gate and Bridge that spanned the elevated DW&L Railroad tracks off Renwick and Oakwood Avenues. Oakwood Avenue approached the original Gate and Bridge at an acute angle (see figure 3.33). The entrance road divided just inside the Gate and Bridge; the road to the north, Dedication Valley, led the visitor into the core of the cemetery, and the road to the south, Midland Avenue, led the visitor to the Lodge and then into the cemetery grounds to the east. According to the photographic documentation the material finish of the roads was compacted soil and gravel.

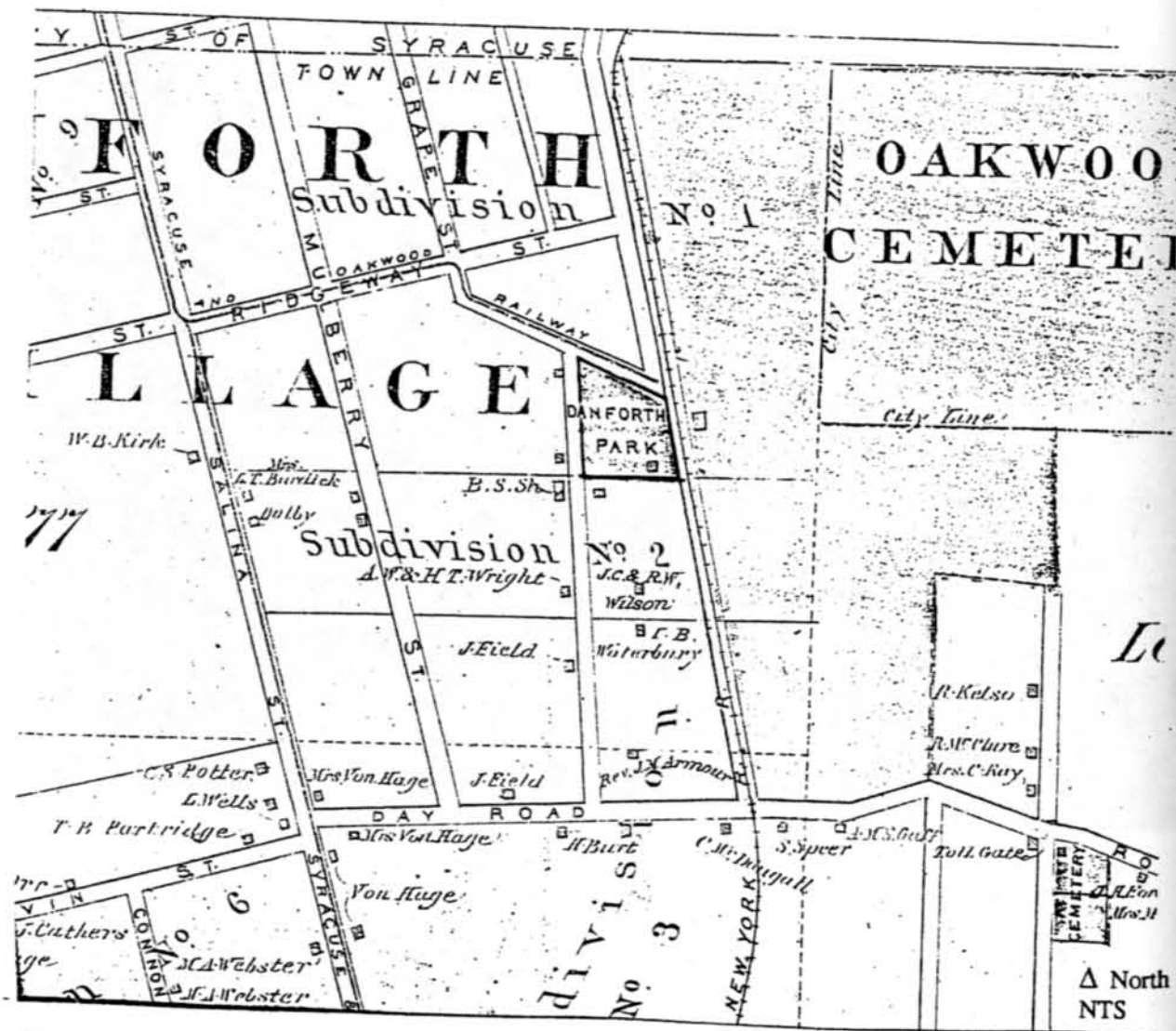


Figure 3.33 View of Danforth Park and entrance to Oakwood, 1874 (Town of Onondaga Map, Danforth and Brighton, 1874, Onondaga Historical Association).

In 1873 a park was established west of the cemetery Gate and Bridge adjacent to the Oakwood Railway stop (see figure 3.33). The park, owned and operated by the Oakwood Railway Company which was independent of the Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, was established as a way to increase ticket sales. A period newspaper stated:

the recent edict of the Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery closing their grounds to the public on Sunday except to pass holders caused a great falling off in receipts of the Oakwood Railway Company and set them to thinking.<sup>106</sup>

As a solution to their financial problems, the Oakwood Railway Company decided that a park was needed:

some place where overworked humanity might find recreation and comfort on days when not engaged in their pursuits, was needed. Immediately after the grounds were purchased a dancing platform, music stand, refreshment tables, swings, etc. were added to the former attractions of the grounds.<sup>107</sup>

The area was named Danforth Park and was leased to groups or organizations for picnics and outings. According to many period newspaper articles Danforth Park was a success and increased ticket sales on the Oakwood Railway: "This is a most delightful place, easy of access, as the Oakwood Cars run right to the park, and on this occasion will return every 10 minutes. A splendid dancing platform has been erected,"<sup>108</sup> and in 1880, "...this rural retreat under the management of Superintendent Thompson of the Oakwood Railway is rapidly growing in popularity."<sup>109</sup>

A newspaper article printed August 9, 1881, stated that the license for Danforth Park was revoked due to the superintendent's violation of the excise laws of the park. By 1900, the park was described as neglected: "Danforth Park is the baptismal name of that neglected plot of city property near the entrance of Oakwood Cemetery."<sup>110</sup> In 1902 the park land was subdivided and the north portion of the Danforth Park Tract was purchased by Oakwood Cemetery (see figure 3.34).

In 1902 the entry sequence began outside the cemetery boundaries with the construction of the superintendent's house, entrance drive, and improvements to the former park. The superintendent's house was located outside the Gate and Bridge in the small triangular piece of land that had been the Danforth Park. The entrance drive was aligned so that the angle of the approach was perpendicular to the new Gate and Bridge also constructed in 1902 (see figure 3.34). Sidewalks were added to provide pedestrian access from the Oakwood Railway and Oakwood and Renwick Avenues to the cemetery grounds (see figure 3.35). The entrance road remained divided just inside the Gate and Bridge. According to photographic documentation, the material finish of the roads was compacted soil and gravel, and by 1902 sidewalks were added along Midland Avenue.

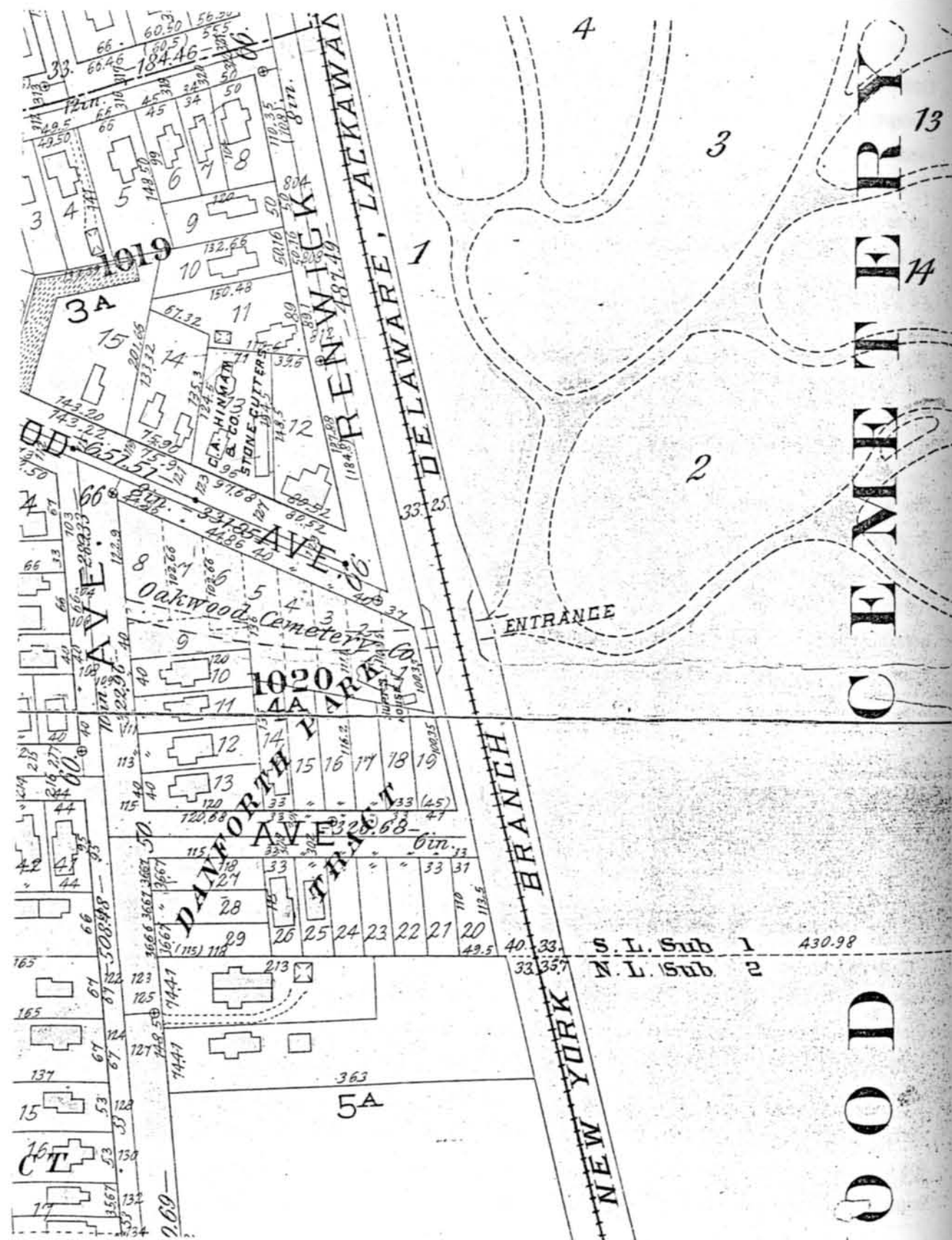


Figure 3.34 Plan of land purchased by Oakwood Cemetery in 1902 (City of Syracuse Atlas, 1908, Onondaga Historical Association).

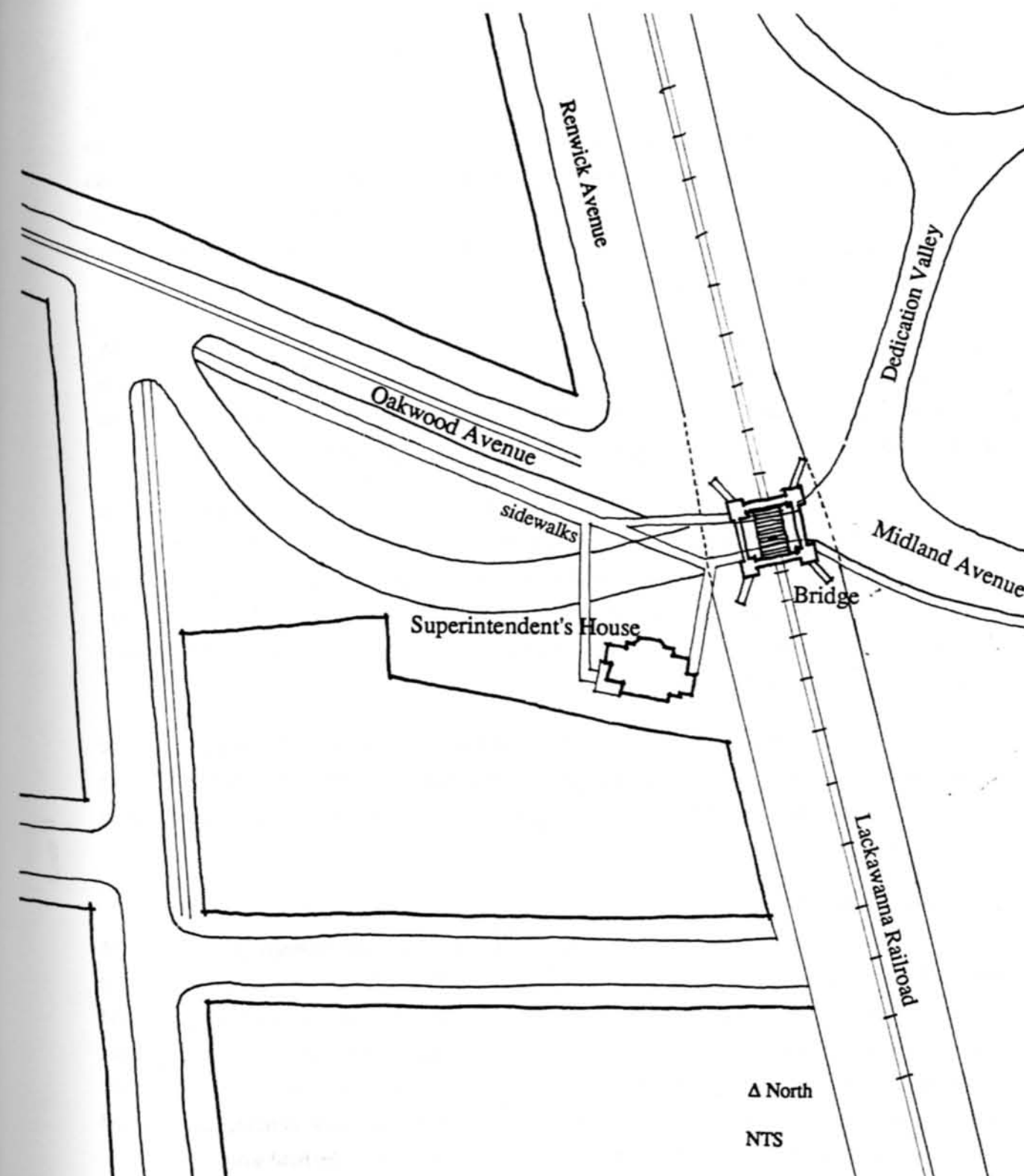


Figure 3.35 Plan of Superintendent's House (Day, 1994, from map by R. Griffin Jr., 1912).



### Furnishings and Objects

Furnishings and objects in the Entry Area fulfilled functional and aesthetic needs of the cemetery. Street signs, for example, functioned as directional tools and contributed to the park-like character of the nineteenth century cemetery.

**Signs:** A small sign was located in front of the Lodge. The "Keep off the grass" sign is illustrated in the 1878 photograph of the Lodge (see figure 3.10). The sign was small, approximately four inches in height and six inches in width. The sign had rounded corners, and contained a stake that could be pushed into the ground. The cast iron signs located in front of the Lodge were located low to the ground, and stood approximately five inches tall.

**Street signs:** A street sign was located at the intersection of Midland Avenue and Summit Avenue. The street sign is illustrated in the 1880 photograph of the Chapel (see figure 3.11). The street sign was approximately five feet tall. The street sign was decorative as well as functional. The cast iron street signs contained a plate across the top indicating the name of the street.

**Stone Border:** A stone border was located around the kidney-shaped area in front of the Chapel. The stone border is illustrated in the circa 1880 photograph of the Chapel (see figure 3.11). The stones were small, approximately five inches wide by five inches high. The photograph illustrates the stones spaced evenly along the inner borders of the planting area. The stones were used as a border until Midland Avenue and the road under the porte-cochere was paved and curbing was installed around the border of the kidney-shaped area.

**Bench:** A bench was located in front of the Lodge and is evident in the 1878 photograph of the Lodge (see figure 3.10). The bench appears to be constructed of wood. The bench helped to define the space in front of the Lodge where visitors could stop and obtain a visitor's pass or inquire about cemetery information.

### EXISTING CONDITIONS

The historic character of the Entry Area has been altered significantly. Changes in the topography, vegetation, and circulation alter the spatial organization of the Entry Area. The existing condition of the Entry Area was recorded. Field work verified the location of roadways, trees, and other site features. Photographs, field notes, and observation were used for recording plant materials, circulation systems, and existing features. Due to the fact that there was no base map or topographic map, recording existing conditions was difficult. Locations of features such as trees, buildings and roads were determined by the aerial photograph taken in 1992 and verified by field work.

### Topography

The existing topography in the Entry Area does not enclose and define the Entry Area. Historic photographs that documented the historic condition of topography in the Entry Area illustrated a ridge that extended from east of the chapel (Section fourteen) to the Entry Area, and separated Midland Avenue and Dedication Valley. The historic ridge formation was removed in order to construct a new road to Dedication Valley (see figure 3.36 and 3.37). The portion of the original ridge formation that separated Dedication Valley and Midland Avenue now has fill placed on it and is relatively flat (see figure 3.38). An aerial view taken in 1992 illustrates the extent of fill in this area west of the chapel (see figure 3.39).

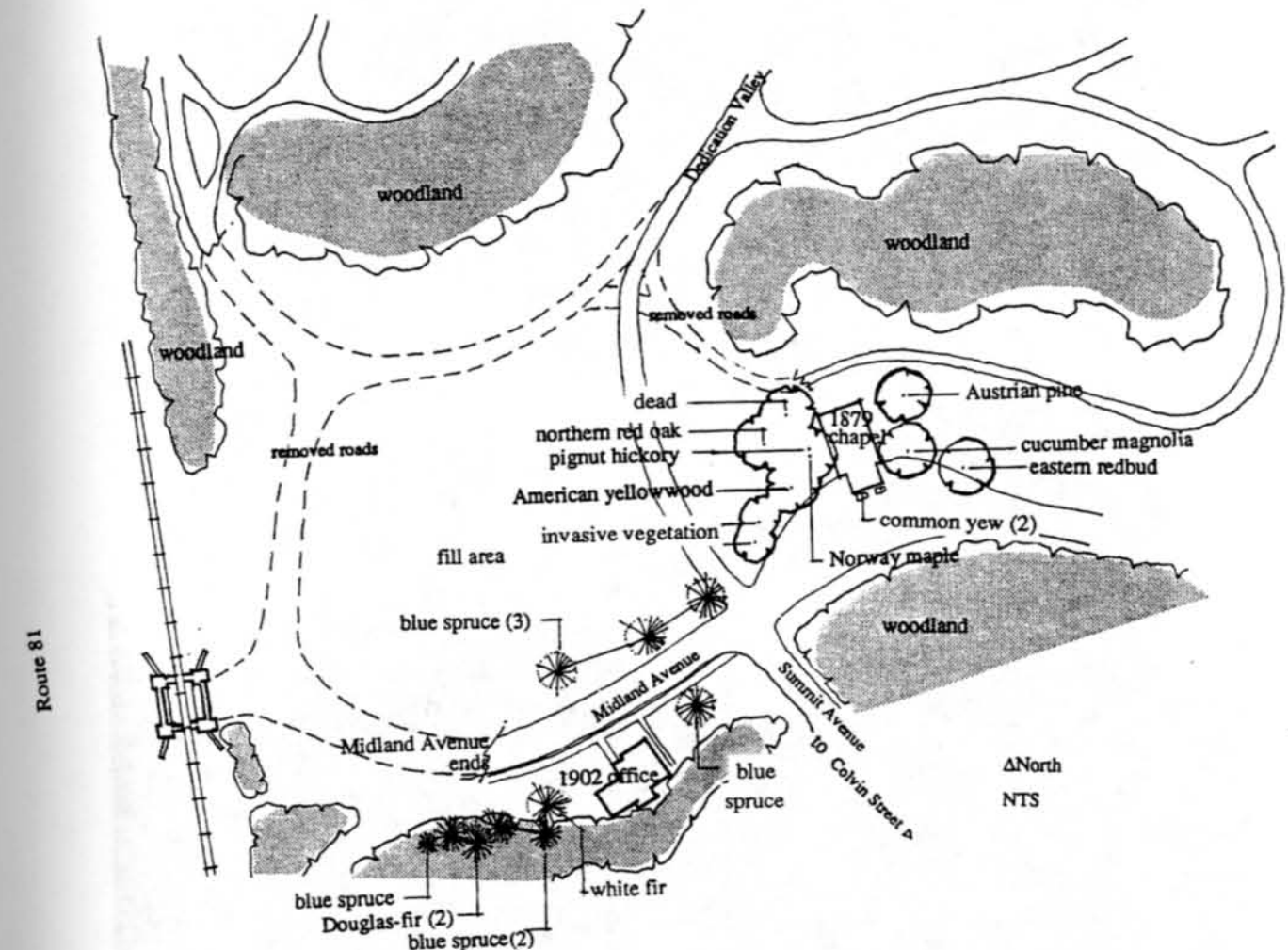


Figure 3.36 Existing Conditions Plan of Entry Area 1993, (Day, 1993).



Figure 3.37 View of new road to Dedication Valley (Day, 1993).



Figure 3.38 View of bridge showing fill area, (Day, 1992).



North Δ  
NTS

Figure 3.39 Aerial photograph of the cemetery illustrating fill area (Robinson Aerial Surveys, Inc., May, 1992).



### Buildings and Structures

The existing buildings and structures in the Entry Area contribute to the historic character of the cemetery. The original Gate and Bridge (circa 1860s), the Lodge (1862), superintendent's house (1902), and Greenhouse (1902) no longer exist.

Original Gate and Bridge: The original iron Gate and Bridge, installed circa 1859, no longer exists. The original iron Gate was removed in 1902 when the new Gate was constructed.

The Lodge: The Lodge, constructed in 1862, no longer exists. The Lodge was located just east of the DW&L Railroad tracks along Midland Avenue. The Lodge was removed between 1902 and 1912, the exact date is not known.

Superintendent's house: The superintendent's house, constructed in 1902, no longer exists. The house was located on the west side of the DW&L Railroad tracks. The superintendent's house was removed for the construction of Interstate Route 81 in 1964.

Greenhouse: The Greenhouse and Palmhouse, constructed in 1902, no longer exist. The Greenhouse and Palmhouse were located west of the Chapel on the north side of Midland Avenue. The Greenhouse and Palmhouse were removed in 1945.

The Chapel (1879), Barn (1891), 1902 Gate and Bridge (1902) and Office (1902) exist in their original locations.

Chapel: The Chapel, constructed in 1879, exists in its original location. It is in poor condition. Vandalism and continued exposure to rain and snow have damaged the structure significantly. Although access into the Chapel has been prohibited by boarding windows and doors, a large hole in the rear of the roof allows rain and snow as well as animals into the structure.

Barn: The Barn, constructed in 1891, exists in its original location. It is in poor condition. It is not located in the Entry Area, but is now visible from all parts of the Entry Area due to the lack of vegetation. It is currently used for maintenance equipment and storage.

1902 Gate and Bridge: The 1902 Gate and Bridge, constructed in 1902, exists in its original location. It is in fair condition. The 1902 Gate and Bridge was closed in 1964 due to the construction of Interstate Route 81. The bridge structure was not altered during the construction of the highway (see figure 3.40). Access to the west side of the bridge is impossible due to Route 81, and accessibility is becoming increasingly difficult on the east side of the bridge due to the growth of invasive vegetation.

Office: The Office, constructed in 1902, exists in its original location. It is in good condition. No major exterior additions or alterations have occurred (see figure 3.41).



Figure 3.40 View of the bridge (Day, 1993).

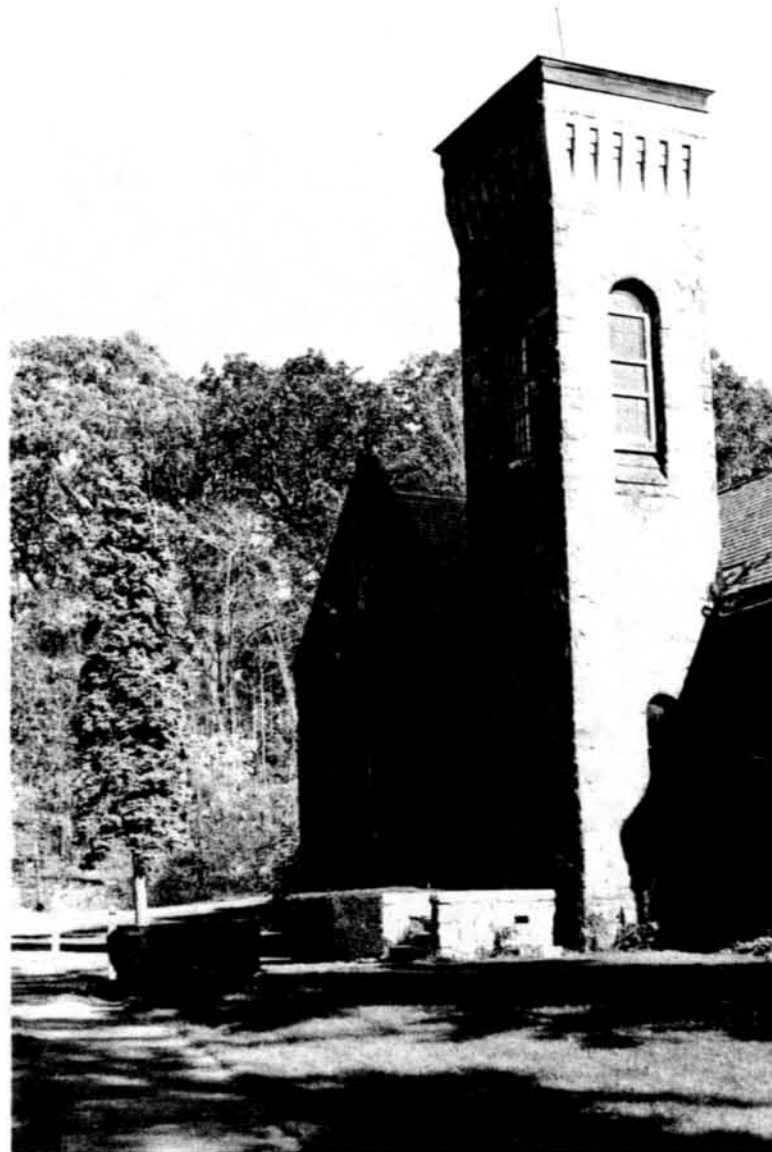


Figure 3.41 View of the Office (Day, 1993).

### Vegetation

The vegetation in the Entry Area consists of relatively few woodland areas compared to the historic condition. The existing woodland areas do not provide enclosure for the Entry Area. Some of the vegetation from the historic period that was located around each building exists. Vegetation associated with the Lodge, Chapel, Office, and Greenhouse is described.

Lodge: Existing vegetation located around the 1862 location of the Lodge consists of six trees (see figure 3.36). One white fir (*Abies concolor*), two Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga-menziessii*), and three blue spruce exist.

Chapel: Existing vegetation located around the Chapel consists of nine trees. One Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*), one northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*), one American yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentuckia*), one pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*), one Austrian pine (*Pinus nigra*), one cucumber magnolia, one cercis redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), two groups of invasive vegetation (boxelder and cherry) exist (see figure 3.36). The kidney-shaped area in front of the Chapel that included plantings no longer exists. Two yews are planted adjacent to the Chapel.

Office: Existing vegetation around the Office consists of two shrubs. Two yews are located at the entrance of the Office. One is planted adjacent to the building and the second is located on the sidewalk of Midland Avenue. A blue spruce exists north of the Office at the intersection of Midland Avenue and Summit Avenue (see figures 3.36 and 3.42).



Figure 3.42 View of existing blue spruces (Day, 1993).



**Greenhouse:** Existing trees to the north of the Office along Midland Avenue include three blue spruces (see figures 3.36 and 3.42). These trees were documented in historic photographs in front of the Greenhouse in the 1902 post card view (see figure 3.14)

**Woodland:** Existing woodland areas are sparse. One woodland area is located south of the Office. The woodland area that existed on the historic ridge that separated Midland Avenue and Dedication Valley no longer exists; the western edge of the woodland stops at the Chapel (see figure 3.43).

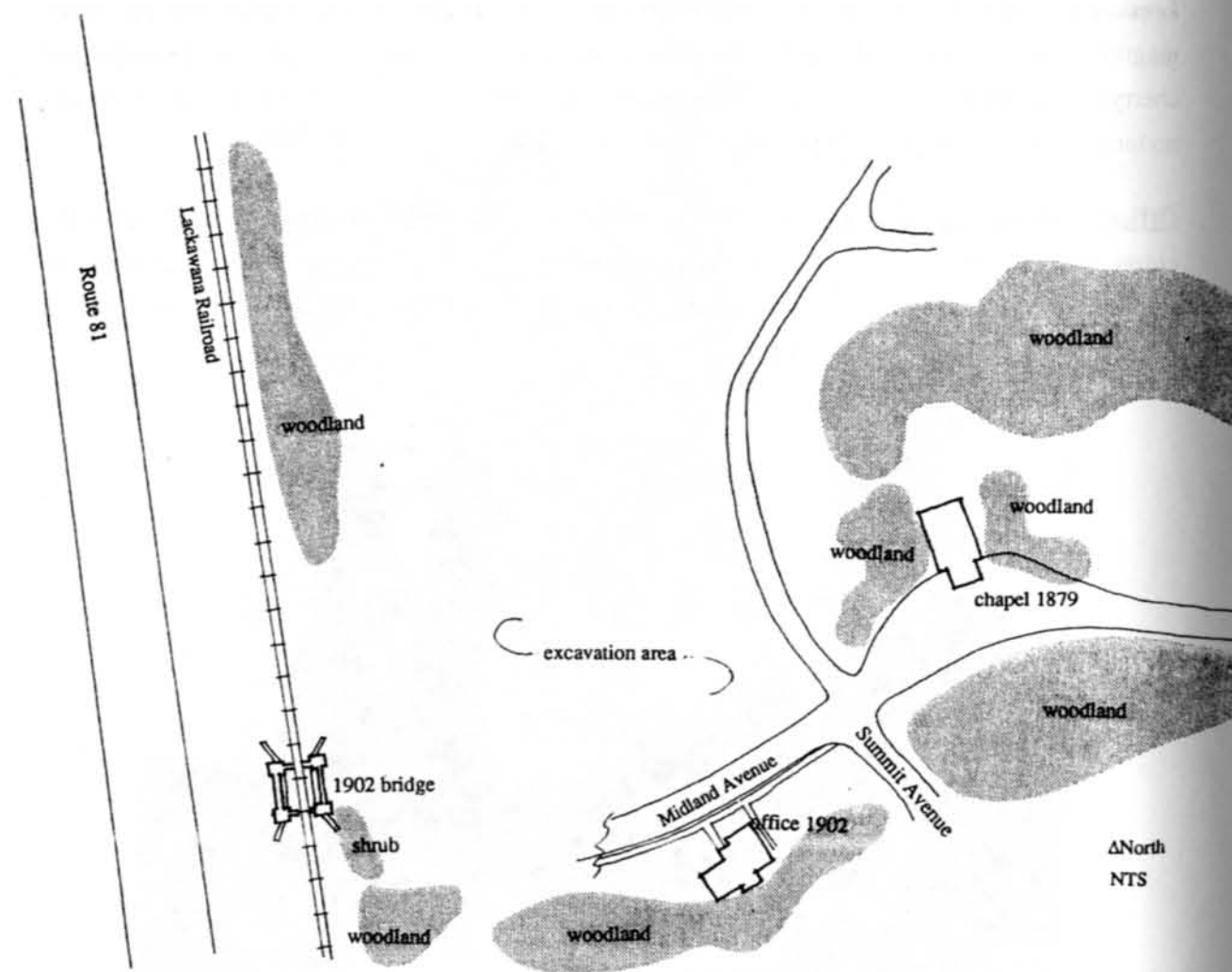


Figure 3.43 Diagram of woodland areas in Entry Area 1993 (Day, 1994).

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Entry Area is open and lacks definition due to the lack of vegetation and the absence of the ridge landform that existed to the north of Midland Avenue. The DW&L Railroad tracks and Interstate Route 81 mark the western boundary of the Entry Area. The topography and the vegetation of the Entry Area have changed significantly and altered the spatial organization of the entry sequence. While the Entry Area was historically a linear, enclosed space, the lack of vegetation and changes in topography have enlarged and widened the space. There is no sense of progression or sequence. The ridge to the south of the Chapel is gone, and in its place is a fill area void of vegetation that does not enclose the space (see figure 3.44). The function of the Entry Area also has changed; the bridge is no longer the main entrance. The cemetery is accessed from Comstock Avenue on the east boundary.

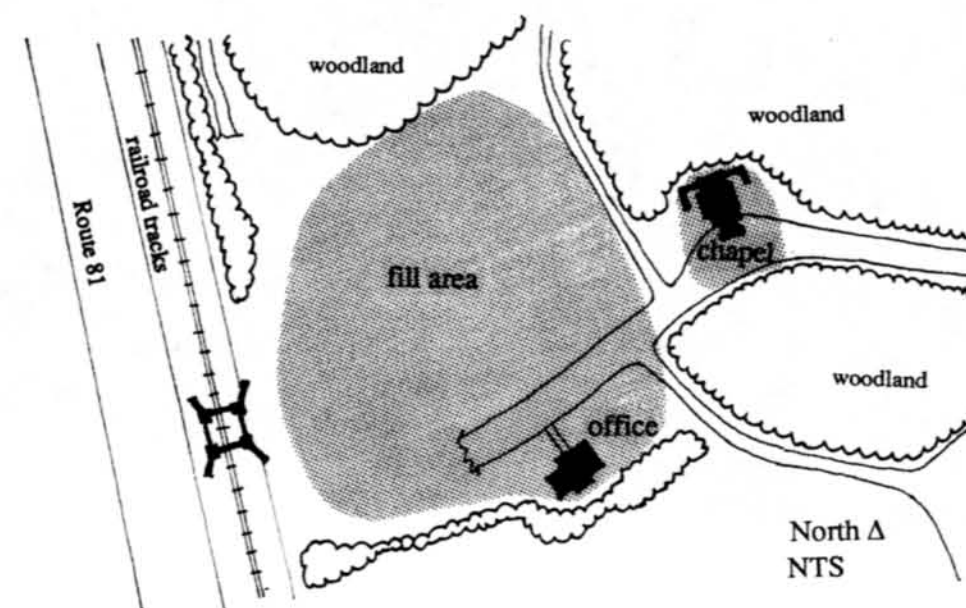


Figure 3.44 Spatial Organization Diagram for the Entry Area, 1993 (Day, 1993).

### Views and Vistas

Views and vistas in the Entry Area are open to other parts of the cemetery. Unlike the historic views, existing views are not enclosed to the Entry Area. Other parts of the cemetery are visible, including areas that were not meant to be seen such as the storage barn. The 1891 barn is visible from the Entry Area. The area south of the office, which is currently used for fill, is also visible from the Entry Area (see figure 3.45). The Entry Area that was historically a enclosed space separate from the rest of the cemetery is now visible from the Pierce Lot in Section three (see figure 3.46).



Figure 3.45 Fill area visible from Entry Area, 1993 (Day, 1993).



Figure 3.46 View from the Pierce Lot, Section three, of fill area and Entry Area (Day, 1992).



### Circulation

The circulation in the Entry Area is no longer an organizing element in the entry sequence of the cemetery. The function and the character of the circulation has been altered significantly. The existing Entry Area is no longer an entrance to the cemetery. It is reached by three routes: Midland Avenue from the southeast, Dedication Valley from the northeast, and Summit Avenue from the west. Midland Avenue brings visitors from the east entrance of the cemetery located on Comstock Avenue and ends thirty feet beyond the Office (see figures 3.36 and 3.47). The road material is macadam and is edged with concrete curbing.



Figure 3.47 Midland Avenue ends before reaching main Gate and Bridge (Day, 1993).

The historic alignment of Dedication Valley was altered when the western portion of the road that led to the main entrance was removed (see figure 3.36). A new road was constructed that runs from Dedication Valley south to the Chapel, through an area that was historically a ridge. The road material is compacted soil and gravel.

Summit Avenue exists in its original location east of the Office. The road runs south and joins a new road system within the newer sections of Oakwood Cemetery. Although the road can be used to exit or enter the cemetery from Colvin Avenue, the road is not frequently used by visitors. Summit is used most frequently by the maintenance and grounds crews of Oakwood Cemetery to access the Barn located off Summit.

### Furnishings and Objects

Furnishings and objects from the historic period in the Entry Area no longer exist.

Signs: The "Keep of the Grass" sign no longer exists. The sign was located in front of the Lodge.

Street signs: The street sign no longer exists. The street sign was located at the intersection of Midland Avenue and Summit Avenue.

Stone border: The stone border no longer exists. The stone border was located around the border of the kidney-shaped planting area in front of the Chapel.

Bench: The bench no longer exists. The bench was located adjacent to the Lodge.

Light posts: Existing light posts are spaced evenly along Midland Avenue in front of the Office. The lighting fixtures stand approximately four feet tall, have a white base and protective wire frame around the bulb (see figure 3.48).



Figure 3.48 View of light posts lining Midland Avenue, 1993 (Day, 1993).

## ANALYSIS

The analysis of the Entry Area presents a comparison of the landscape features during the historic period to the existing features of the area. A comparison of the historic documentation with the existing conditions of the area determines which site features contribute to the entry area's integrity. A determination was then made regarding the contribution of the existing individual feature to the significance of the entry area. A contributing feature is one that was "... present during the period of significance, and possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is capable of yielding important information about the period."<sup>112</sup> A non-contributing feature is one "... not present during the significant period, or due to alterations, disturbances, additions, or other changes, it no longer possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is incapable of yielding important information about the period."<sup>113</sup>

### Topography

**Historic Condition:** The topography in the Entry Area provided enclosure and defined the Entry area as a space within the cemetery. Historic photographs were the sole source of information regarding topography in the Entry Area. Early photographs of the original Gate and Bridge illustrate a ridge formation that extended from east of the Chapel (section fourteen) to the Entry Area and separated Midland Avenue and Dedication Valley.

**Existing Condition:** The existing topography in the Entry Area does not enclose and define the Entry Area. The historic ridge formation was removed in order to construct a new road to Dedication Valley. The portion of the original ridge formation that separated Dedication Valley and Midland Avenue now has fill placed on it and is relatively flat.

**Analysis:** Existing, Non-contributing  
The topography has been altered significantly. The ridge that extended from the east of the Chapel to the Entry Area was removed in order to construct a new road leading to Dedication Valley. The grade and elevation of the area between Midland Avenue and Dedication Valley is altered. Due to these alterations in the topography as it existed during the historic period and the fact that the landform no longer reflects the original character of the Entry Area, it is a non-contributing feature.

### Buildings and Structures

#### Original Gate and Bridge

**Historic Condition:** The original Gate and Bridge was installed circa 1860s at the western boundary of the cemetery. The iron Gate was adorned with Egyptian-revival columns.

**Existing Condition:** The original Gate and Bridge no longer exists. The original Gate and Bridge was removed in 1902 when the new Gate was constructed.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

#### The Lodge

**Historic Condition:** The care-taker's cottage, known as the "Lodge", was constructed in 1862 east of the railroad tracks and adjacent to the original Gate. The Lodge was a board and batten cottage with a double gothic arch doorway and decorative upper windows.

**Existing Condition:** The Lodge no longer exists. The Lodge was located just east of the DL&W Railroad tracks along Midland Avenue. The Lodge was removed between 1902 and 1912, the exact date is not known.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

#### Chapel

**Historic Condition:** The Chapel, designed by Joseph Silsbee, was constructed in 1879 east of the Lodge on Midland Avenue. The Chapel and receiving vault were built into the steep slope of the ridge to the north. The Victorian Gothic style Chapel was built of Onondaga limestone, and had unique architectural details such as a slate, steep-pitched roof with terra-cotta coping, a Gothic-arched porte-cochere, a high central tower and two rear "chimney pot"-like vent stacks.<sup>113</sup>

**Existing Condition:** The Chapel exists in its original location. It is in poor condition. Vandalism and continued exposure to rain and snow have damaged the structure significantly. Although access into the Chapel has been prohibited by boarding windows and doors, a large hole in the rear of the roof allows rain and snow as well as animals into the structure.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing  
The Chapel is poor condition. There have been no contemporary exterior alterations that compromise its ability to reflect the historic character and therefore it is contributing feature.

#### Barn

**Historic Condition:** The Barn was constructed in circa 1891 east of the Entry Area. The Barn was a gambrel-roofed, wood structure. The Barn was built for storage purposes. At the time of its construction a woodland area between the Entry Area and the Barn blocked views of the storage Barn from Midland Avenue.

**Existing Condition:** The Barn exists in its original location. It is in poor condition. It is not located in the Entry Area, but is now visible from all parts of the Entry Area due to the lack of vegetation. It is currently used for maintenance equipment and storage. The Barn functions adequately for its current use as a storage and maintenance facility.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing  
The Barn is in poor condition. There have been no contemporary alterations that compromise its ability to reflect the historic character of the structure and therefore it is contributing feature.

#### 1902 Gate and Bridge

**Historic Condition:** The 1902 Gate and Bridge was constructed in 1902 in the location of the original Gate and Bridge on the western boundary of the cemetery. The Romanesque Gate and Bridge designed by architect, H. Q. French and Company of New York City "... included a twenty-five foot wide arch under which visitors used to enter the cemetery grounds, and over which--between pairs of stone abutments with square corner piers--trains from the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad once passed."<sup>114</sup> The 1902 Gate and Bridge included an iron fence and Gate and Bridge located on the west side of the bridge that could be opened and closed.

**Existing Condition:** The 1902 Gate and Bridge exists in its original location. It is in fair condition. The 1902 Gate and Bridge was closed in 1964 due to the construction of Interstate Route 81. The structure of the bridge was not altered during the construction of the highway. Access to the west side of the bridge is impossible due to Route 81, and accessibility is



becoming increasingly difficult on the east side of the bridge due to the growth of invasive vegetation.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing.

The 1902 Gate and Bridge is in fair condition. There have been no contemporary alterations that compromise its ability to reflect the historic character of the structure and therefore it is contributing feature.

Superintendent's house

**Historic Condition:** The superintendent's house was constructed in 1902 on the west side of the DL&W Railroad tracks, just outside the cemetery entrance. The superintendent's house was located on a triangular piece of land that served as an extension of the Entry Area in order to welcome visitors who arrived by train on the Oakwood Railway or by carriage on Renwick and Oakwood Avenues.

**Existing Condition:** The superintendent's house no longer exists. The house was located on the west side of the DL&W Railroad tracks. The superintendent's house was removed for the construction of Interstate Route 81 in 1964.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

Office

**Historic Condition:** The Office was constructed in 1902 east of the Lodge on Midland Avenue. The Romanesque style building and the 1902 Gate and Bridge were both designed by the New York City architectural firm of H. Q. French and Company which specialized in monument and vault design.

**Existing Condition:** The Office exists in its original location. It is in good condition. No major additions or renovations have been done to the 1902 building.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The Office is in good condition. There have been no contemporary exterior alterations that compromise the Office's ability to reflect its historic character and therefore it is a contributing feature.

Greenhouse

**Historic Condition:** The Greenhouse and Palmhouse were constructed in 1902 west of the Chapel on Midland Avenue. The Greenhouse, located to the rear, was built into the ridge to the north. The Palmhouse had a stone masonry base.

**Existing Condition:** The Greenhouse and Palmhouse no longer exist. The Greenhouse and Palmhouse were located west of the Chapel on the north side of Midland Avenue. The Greenhouse and Palmhouse were removed in 1945.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

**Vegetation**

Lodge

**Historic Condition:** Historic vegetation located around the Lodge consisted of one black oak and two blue spruce trees. The Lodge was surrounded by woodland areas that bordered Midland Avenue and the Lodge to the south.

**Existing Condition:** Existing vegetation located around the 1862 location of the Lodge consists of six trees. One white fir, two Douglas-fir, and three blue spruce exist.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The trees located around the Lodge site are in good condition. Although it cannot be verified that the existing firs and spruces are from the historic period, two blue spruces did exist historically. The existing trees reflect the historic character and are therefore contributing features.

Chapel

**Historic Condition:** Historic vegetation located around the Chapel and in the kidney-shaped planting area changed over time. Period photographs illustrate a variety of plantings. The plantings were symmetrical, formal plantings that were planned to enframe the building. Species included cucumber magnolia and blue spruce.

**Existing Condition:** Existing vegetation located around the Chapel consist of nine trees. One Norway maple, one northern red oak, one American yellowwood, one pignut hickory, one Austrian pine, one cucumber magnolia, one cercis redbud, and two groupings of invasive vegetation including boxelder and cherry. The kidney-shaped area in front of the Chapel that included plantings no longer exists. Two yews are planted adjacent to the Chapel. The existing vegetation does not reflect the historic planting arrangement. Most of the trees are located on the slopes adjacent to the Chapel and therefore, do not contribute to the enframing of the Chapel that was intended in the historic plantings.

**Analysis:**

**Composition:** Non-existing

**Individual trees:** Existing, Contributing

The one existing cucumber magnolia located to the east of the Chapel is in good condition. It is a historic tree planted in the late 1880s and therefore is a contributing feature.

Office

**Historic Condition:** Historic vegetation located around the Office consisted of four shrubs: two on each side of the entrance, one in the corner formed by the tower, one at the south-west corner. A mass of low ground cover or a low spreading shrub was located west of the Office. The Office was surrounded by woodland areas to the south.

**Existing Condition:** Existing vegetation located around the Office consists of two shrubs. Two yews are located at the entrance of the Office. One is planted adjacent to the building and the second is located on the sidewalk of Midland Avenue. A blue spruce exists north of the Office at the intersection of Midland Avenue and Summit Avenue. The woodland area to the south of the Office is sparse.

**Analysis:** Existing, Non-contributing

The existing shrubs located around the Office are in good condition but did not exist during historic period. Therefore, they are non-contributing features.

Greenhouse

**Historic Condition:** Historic vegetation located around the Greenhouse consisted of two blue spruce trees. Two blue spruce were located at each side of the entrance to the Greenhouse and one deciduous tree was located at the east corner. The Greenhouse was surrounded by woodland areas to the north and west.

**Existing Condition:** Existing trees to the north of the Office along Midland Avenue include three blue spruce. These are the trees that were documented in historic photographs front of

the Greenhouse in the 1902 post card view of the Chapel and Greenhouse. The woodland areas to the north and west of the original Greenhouse location no longer exist.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The three blue spruce trees located north of Midland Avenue are in good condition. The blue spruce trees exist from the historic period and therefore are contributing features.

### Woodland

**Historic Condition:** Historic woodland areas lined Midland Avenue and Dedication Valley and provided a border around the Entry Area. Species included black oak, white oak, white pine, white ash, sugar maple, red maple, pignut hickory, and shagbark hickory.

**Existing Condition:** Existing woodland areas are sparse. One woodland area is located south of the Office. The woodland area that existed on the historic ridge that separated Midland Avenue and Dedication Valley no longer exists.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

### Spatial Organization

**Historic Condition:** The spatial organization of the Entry Area was integral to the entry sequence of the cemetery. In the 1860s, the spatial organization was defined by the circulation, elevated DL&W Railroad tracks, woodland areas, and the Lodge.

The spatial organization of the Entry Area changed in 1902 with the addition of the Chapel, 1902 Gate and Bridge, Greenhouse, Office, and the superintendent's house and park located to the west of the DL&W Railroad tracks. The addition of these buildings added complexity to the entry sequence; each building defined an additional space and provided a focal point that drew the visitors through the Entry Area and into the cemetery.

**Existing Condition:** The existing spatial organization is open and lacks definition due to the lack of vegetation and the absence of the ridge landform that existed to the north of Midland Avenue.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

### Views and Vistas

**Historic Condition:** The views and vistas in the Entry Area were internal views. There were no significant views or vistas into other parts of the cemetery from the Entry Area. The vegetation, topography, elevated railroad tracks, and woodland areas blocked views from this space and thus created a feeling of enclosure. Internal views within the Entry Area, however, were an important part of the entry sequence. The addition of the Chapel, Office and Greenhouse by 1902 created new compositions; views of the Chapel, Office, and Greenhouse became visible one by one as the visitor proceeded along Midland Avenue.

**Existing Condition:** Views and vistas in the Entry Area are open to other parts of the cemetery. Unlike the historic views, existing views are not enclosed to the Entry Area. Other parts of the cemetery are visible, including areas that were not meant to be seen such as the storage Barn. The 1891 Barn is visible from the Entry Area. The area south of the Office, which is currently used for fill, is also visible from the Entry Area. The Entry Area that was historically a enclosed space separate from the rest of the cemetery is now visible from the Pierce Lot in Section three.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

### Circulation

**Historic Condition:** The circulation in the Entry Area was the major organizing element in the linear entry sequence of the cemetery. A visitor arrived at the main entrance by train on the Oakwood Railway or by carriage on Renwick and Oakwood Avenues. The entrance road divided just inside the Gate and Bridge; the road to the north, Dedication Valley, led the visitor into the core of the cemetery, and the road to the south, Midland Avenue, led the visitor to the Lodge and then into the cemetery grounds. According to the photographic documentation the material finish of the roads was compacted soil and gravel.

In 1902 the entry sequence was articulated outside the cemetery boundaries with the construction of the superintendent's house. The house was located outside the Gate and Bridge in a small triangular piece of land. Once inside the Gate the road maintained its original alignment; the road to the north, Dedication Valley, led the visitor into the core of the cemetery, and the road to the south, Midland Avenue, led the visitor to the Lodge and then to the Office, Greenhouse and Chapel. According to the photographic documentation the material finish of the roads was compacted soil and gravel, and by 1902, stone sidewalks were added along Midland Avenue.

**Existing Condition:** The circulation in the Entry Area is no longer an organizing element in the entry sequence of the cemetery. The function and the character of the circulation has been altered significantly. The Entry Area is no longer an entrance to the cemetery.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

### Furnishings and Objects

#### Signs

**Historic Condition:** A small sign was located in front of the Lodge. The "Keep off the grass" sign is illustrated in the 1878 photograph of the Lodge. The sign was small, approximately four inches in height and six inches in width. The sign had rounded corners, and contained a stake that could be pushed into the ground. The cast iron signs were located low to the ground, and stood approximately five inches tall.

**Existing Condition:** The "Keep of the Grass" sign no longer exists.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

#### Street signs

**Historic Condition:** A street sign was located at the intersection of Midland Avenue and Summit Avenue. The street sign is illustrated in the 1880 photograph of the Chapel. The street sign was approximately five feet tall. The street sign was decorative as well as functional. The cast iron street signs contained a plate across the top indicating the name of the street.

**Existing Condition:** The street sign no longer exists.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

#### Stone Border

**Historic Condition:** A stone border was located around the kidney-shaped area in front of the Chapel. The stone border is illustrated in the circa 1880 photograph of the Chapel. The stones were small, approximately five inches wide by five inches high. The photograph illustrates the stones spaced evenly along the inner borders of the planting area. The were stones were used as a border until the Midland Avenue and the road under the porte-cochere was paved and curbing was installed around the border of the kidney-shaped area.



**Existing Condition:** The stone border no longer exist.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

#### Bench

**Historic Condition:** A bench was located in front of the Lodge. The bench is illustrated in the 1878 photograph of the Lodge. The bench appears to be constructed of wood. The bench helped to define the space in front of the Lodge where visitors could stop and obtain a visitor's pass or inquire about cemetery information until the Lodge was removed between 1902 and 1912.

**Existing Condition:** The bench no longer exists.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

#### Light Fixtures

**Historic Condition:** The light fixtures did not exist during the period of significance.

**Existing Condition:** Existing light posts are spaced evenly along Midland Avenue in front of the Office. The lighting fixtures stand approximately four feet tall, have a white base and protective wire frame around the bulb.

**Analysis:** Existing, Non-contributing

The light fixtures that border the Office are recent additions to the landscape and do not reflect the historic character, therefore they are non-contributing feature.

#### Summary

The historic character of the Entry Area has been altered significantly. A number of factors contribute to these changes. The major contributing factor is the construction of Interstate Route 81 in 1964. When the highway was constructed and the main entrance of the cemetery was closed and the buildings in the Entry Area no longer served their historic purpose. The Office, located at the entrance in 1902 to greet visitors and answer questions, was now located at a far corner of the cemetery inconvenient for cemetery business. Another factor that altered the need and purpose of an Entry Area was the change in burial customs and the change in societies views of death and the cemetery. The nineteenth century cemetery was a spot for families and visitors to the city to tour, whether to mourn the dead, visit the family lot or enjoy a day in nature. Although Oakwood is unique in that it attracts walkers, bird watchers, and historians, most cemeteries today serve the single purpose of providing a place for burial. The physical form of the Entry Area has changed as a result of these changes in social and physical functions of the rural cemetery.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### Inner Core: History, Existing Conditions, and Analysis

The Entry Area consisted of cemetery owned land that provided services and fulfilled the functional requirements of the cemetery. The Inner Core, however, consisted of cemetery owned land and privately owned lots that comprised the majority of the site and the oldest portion of the cemetery (see figure 4.1). Dedication Valley was the main avenue located in the center of the Inner Core; the low lying avenue was defined and enclosed by the steep slopes to the west and varied landforms to the east. The Inner Core area surrounded Dedication Valley and was selected for study due to its variety of landscape features such as topography, vegetation, spatial organization, views and vistas, and also for its ability to demonstrate the design qualities characteristic of the nineteenth century rural cemetery.

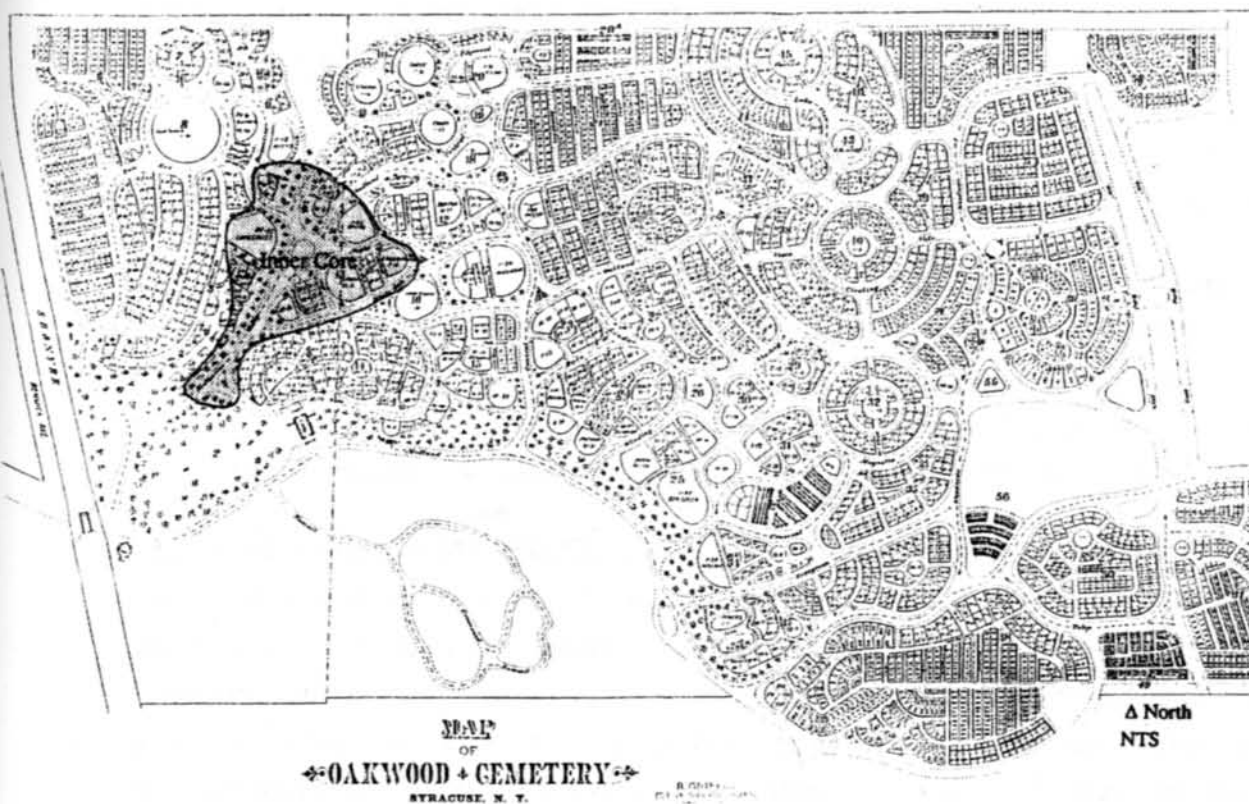


Figure 4.1 Location of Inner Core, circa 1860 (Map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



This chapter presents the history, existing conditions, and an analysis of the landscape features in the Inner Core. The history section will document the history and development of the Inner Core through primary research of available photographs, maps and text; the existing conditions section will present the condition and location of landscape features through field survey; the analysis will evaluate the landscape feature's contribution to the site's historic significance and integrity through comparison of field survey information and historic documentation.

A visit to Oakwood Cemetery in 1859 would begin in the Entry Area. The visitor could then proceed to Dedication Valley into the heart of the cemetery, referred to as "... the oldest portion of the cemetery. . . ." <sup>115</sup> The visitor could experience the varied compositions of picturesque plantings, large monuments, and unique landforms from any point along Dedication Valley Avenue.

The Inner Core contained both public and private spaces. The roads, paths and land surrounding individual lots was public land, owned and maintained by the cemetery (see figure 4.2). The treatment of the public land in combination with the privately owned lots was investigated in order to understand the way in which the continuity of the nineteenth century cemetery landscape was achieved.

## HISTORY

Several historic photographs document the Inner Core. Photographs of individual lots, monuments and views along Dedication Valley document the landscape features. Several views along Dedication Valley illustrate the change over time in the vegetation in the Inner Core. The photographs were dated as accurately as possible by using the construction dates of monuments visible in the photographs.

## Topography

The topography of the Inner Core provided enclosure and visual interest for this portion of the cemetery. Historic photographs and period descriptions were the sole source of information regarding topography in the Inner Core. Historic photographs illustrate the general character of the landform that was described by H. P. Smith in *A History of Oakwood*, published in 1871.

The Inner Core was characterized by its unique landform. The topography defined the space by providing boundaries on the east and west; the ridge to the west created a uniform visual and physical barrier along the entire length of Dedication Valley. The slope to the east of Dedication Valley sloped more gently to the high point of the east ridge and was punctuated by depressions. The deep, parallel depressions were formed by the elongated landforms aligned north-south throughout the site (see figures 4.3 and 4.4). The landform was accentuated by the location of the roads and lots; the roads were located in the depressions between the rounded hills which provided visual interest.



Figure 4.2

Diagram of privately owned lots and cemetery owned land, Inner Core (Day, 1994, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

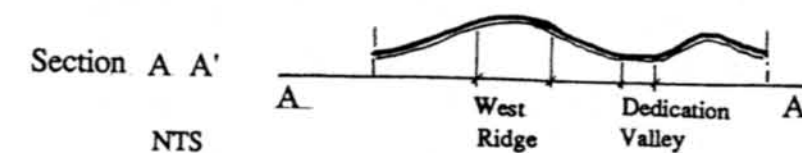


Figure 4.4

East-west section through Inner Core illustrating general landform (Day, 1993).

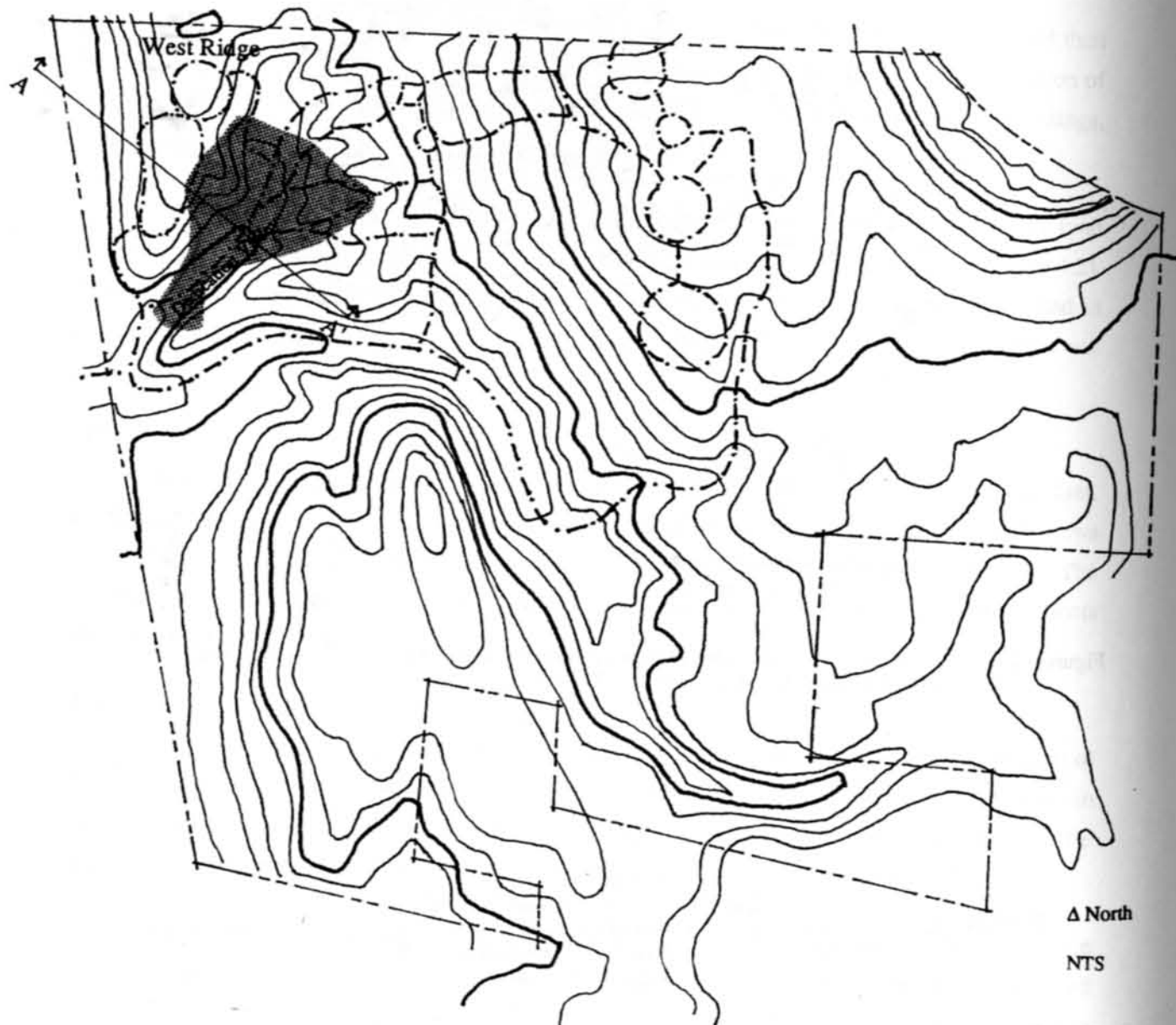


Figure 4.4 Topographic map of Oakwood Cemetery (Day, 1993, United States Geological Survey, Syracuse West, 1978).

### Buildings and Structures

There are no buildings in the Inner Core. The mausoleums and major monuments in the Inner Core provide unique compositions and views for the cemetery and are an important part of the cemetery landscape. Their location in the landscape affects views, contrast, and variety in the compositions of the cemetery. The mausoleums and monuments are placed carefully in order to accentuate their location in the cemetery. Placed at the high point of the lot, and situated to command views from surrounding avenues and lots, the monuments emphasize the topography of the lot. Often the location and orientation of a monument accentuates the unique form or natural feature of the individual lot. The Inner Core has several mausoleums and significant monuments that are included in the structures category (see figure 2.18 Monument Location Map).

### Vegetation

The vegetation of the Inner Core was characterized by woodland areas and individual trees planted on privately owned lots and on cemetery owned land. It was the combination of vegetation planted on privately owned lots, on cemetery owned land, and vegetation that existed when the cemetery was constructed that created the composition of the cemetery landscape. Dense vegetation provided framing elements and viewing corridors. One example of cemetery owned land was the triangular island at the termination of Dedication Valley (see figure 4.5). The island was a popular view for photographers, and therefore, there was a great deal of photographic evidence that documents the changes over time. The area was valued and admired for its vegetation. As H. P. Smith exclaimed in *A History of Oakwood*:

[In Dedication Valley] we find ourselves surrounded above and upon all sides, by a wealth of magnificence, in foliage flower and shrub, interspersed with the kingly trunks of grand old trees, which is sought for in most other cemeteries in the country, where nature has been less prodigal in her gifts than in Oakwood.<sup>116</sup>

Historic photographs and subsequent views of the Inner Core were the only documentation available for vegetation. Although individual trees could not be located with accuracy due to the lack of a base map, trees were located on the Inner Core plan using historic photographs and existing trees and stumps from the historic period. The general locations and composition of the historic vegetation was discussed according to the five available historic photographs: one dated circa 1860s, two photographs dated circa 1880s, and two dated circa 1890s. The vegetation illustrated in the photographs was analyzed and discussed in two parts: vegetation located along Dedication Valley, and vegetation located on the island at the termination of Dedication Valley.



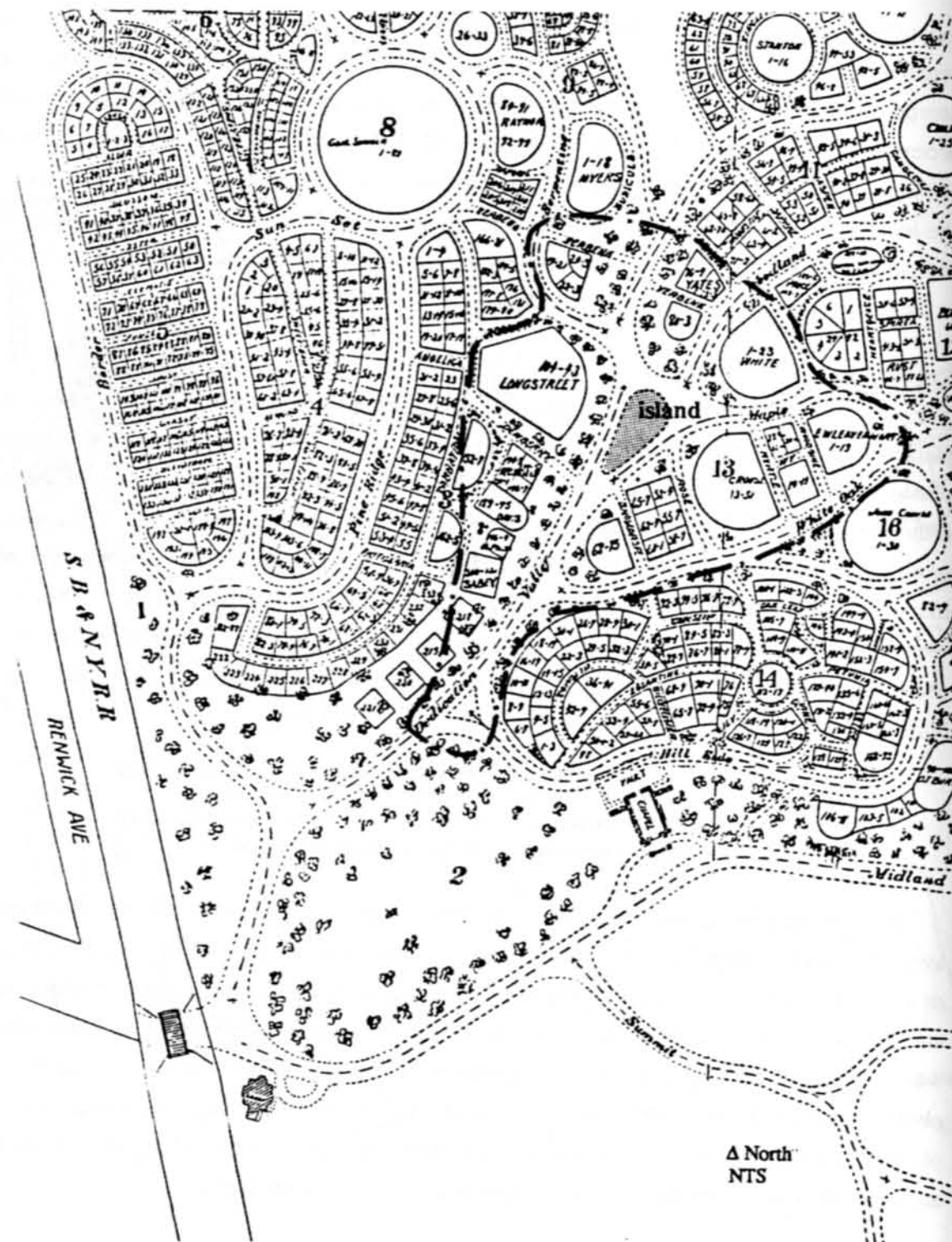


Figure 4.5 Plan of Inner Core illustrating island at termination of Dedication Valley (Map by R. Griffin, Jr., circa 1898).

### Vegetation: Circa 1860s

The circa 1860s photograph illustrates the woodland character of the Inner Core (see figure 4.6). The circa 1860s photograph, the earliest existing photograph of Dedication Valley, was dated after October 1860 according to the existence of adjacent monuments.<sup>117</sup> Four oak trees were located along Dedication Valley in front of the Redfield lot.<sup>118</sup> The photograph illustrates the number of trees located in the Inner Core that enhanced the woodland character. The majority of the woodland trees were deciduous, and included species such as oak and hickory.

The circa 1860 photograph does not clearly illustrate the island, but it appears that two trees were located on the island at this time, one is deciduous and one is coniferous.



Figure 4.6 Early View of Dedication Valley circa 1860s (Onondaga Historical Association).

## Circa 1880s

The two circa 1880s photographs illustrate the woodland character of the Inner Core (see figures 4.7 and 4.8). The circa 1880 photograph looking north along Dedication Valley was taken in the spring or summer when the trees were in full leaf and emphasized the enclosure the trees provided to the Inner Core (see figure 4.7). The photograph also illustrates several oaks, hostas and small shrubs located along Dedication Valley in front of the Longstreet Lot. The circa 1880s photograph, looking east from the Longstreet Lot, illustrates the hostas and shrubs (see figure 4.8).

The two circa 1880s photographs illustrate several trees located on the island. The first photograph, looking north along Dedication Valley illustrates five trees on the island. One Norway spruce (*Picea abies*), visible on the east end of the island is the conifer documented in the circa 1860s photograph (see figure 4.6). One baldcypress (*Taxodium distichum*) is visible on the west end of the island.<sup>119</sup> Two white oaks were located on the east and west end of the island (see figure 4.9).<sup>120</sup> The second circa 1880s photograph, looking east from the Longstreet Lot, also illustrates the two oak trees (see figure 4.8).

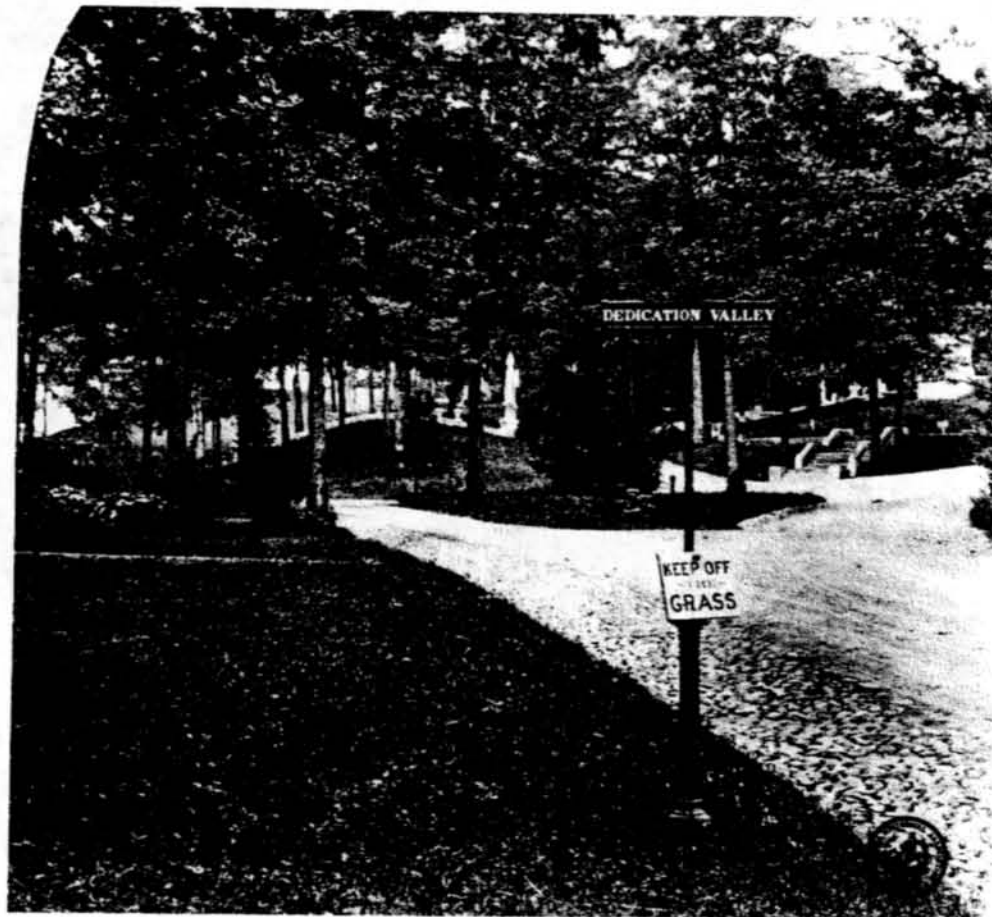


Figure 4.7 View looking north of island at the termination of Dedication Valley, circa 1880s (Onondaga Historical Association).



Figure 4.8 View looking east of island in Inner Core from Longstreet Lot, circa 1880s (Onondaga Historical Association).



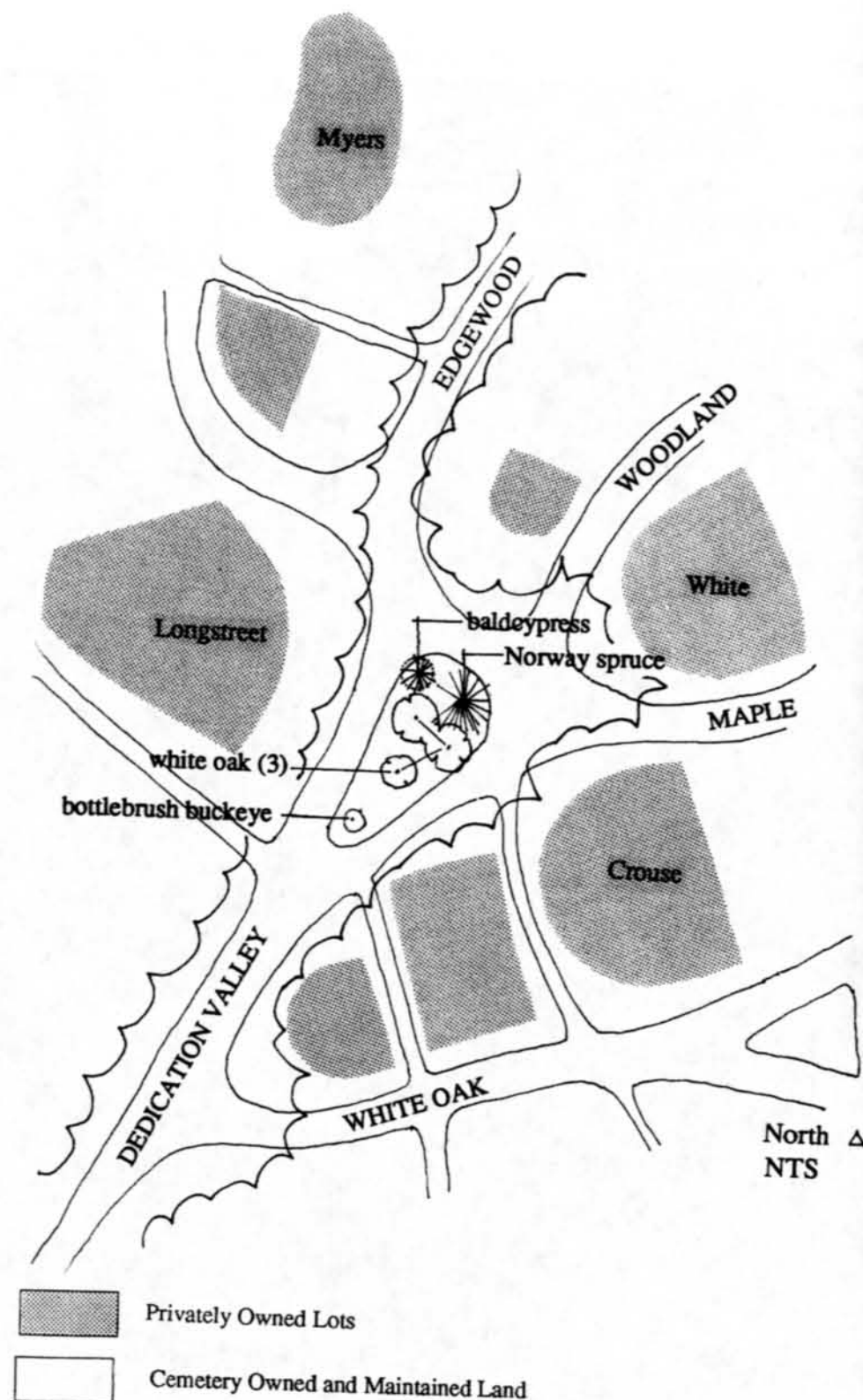


Figure 4.9 Plan of island in Inner Core, circa 1880s (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

### Circa 1890s

The circa 1890s photographs illustrate both the woodland character of the Inner Core and the change in vegetation in the Inner Core (see figure 4.10, 4.11 and 4.12). The circa 1890s photograph looking north down Dedication Valley illustrates a variety of shrubs along the main avenue that added to the complexity of the views. Two small shrubs were located at the entrance to the Gussman Vault, west of Dedication Valley. One bottlebrush buckeye (*Aesculus parviflora*) was located on section fourteen between Hillside Avenue and White Oak Avenue, east of Dedication Valley. Several shrubs are located on section thirteen, east of Dedication Valley (see figure 4.12). The circa 1890s photograph looking south illustrates the dense woodland character of the Inner Core (see figure 4.11).

The 1890s photograph looking north illustrates the island in the background of the photograph. One bottlebrush buckeye is located on the south end of the island. The trees previously documented on the island are not illustrated in this view (see figure 4.10).

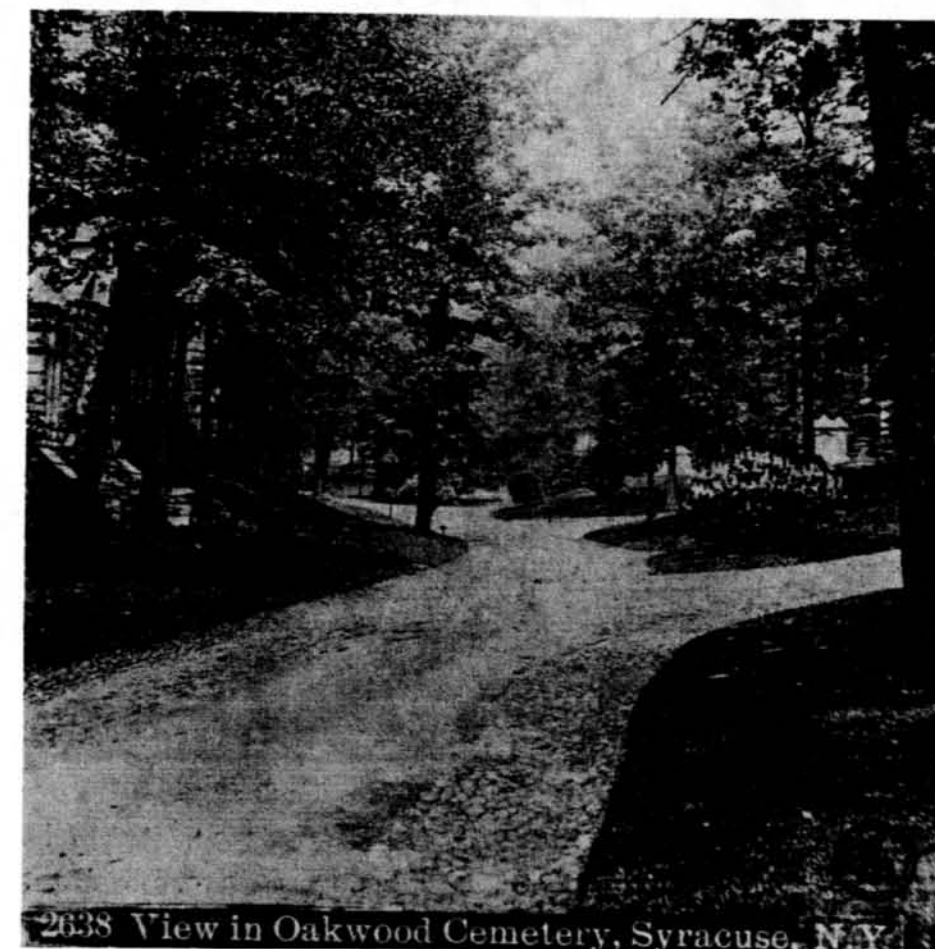


Figure 4.10 View of Dedication Valley looking north, circa 1890s (Onondaga Historical Association).

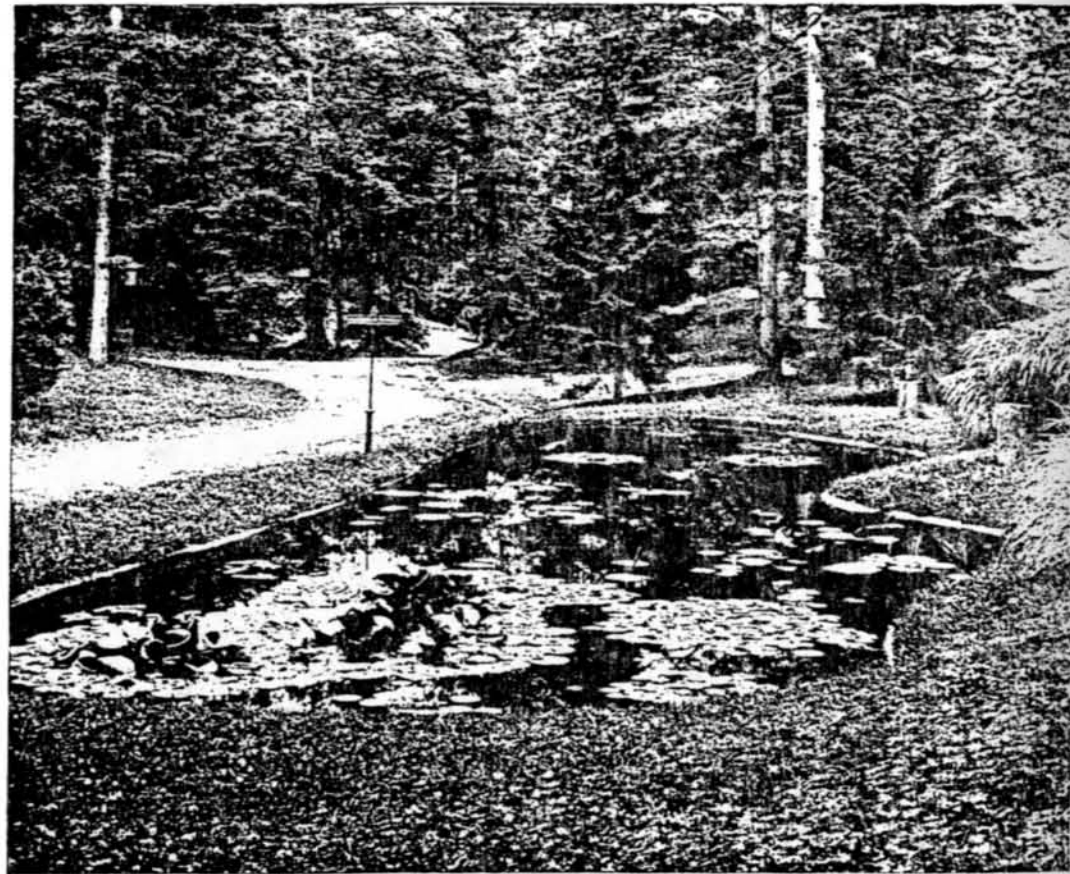


Figure 4.11 View of Dedication Valley looking south, circa 1890s (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills & Co., 1894).

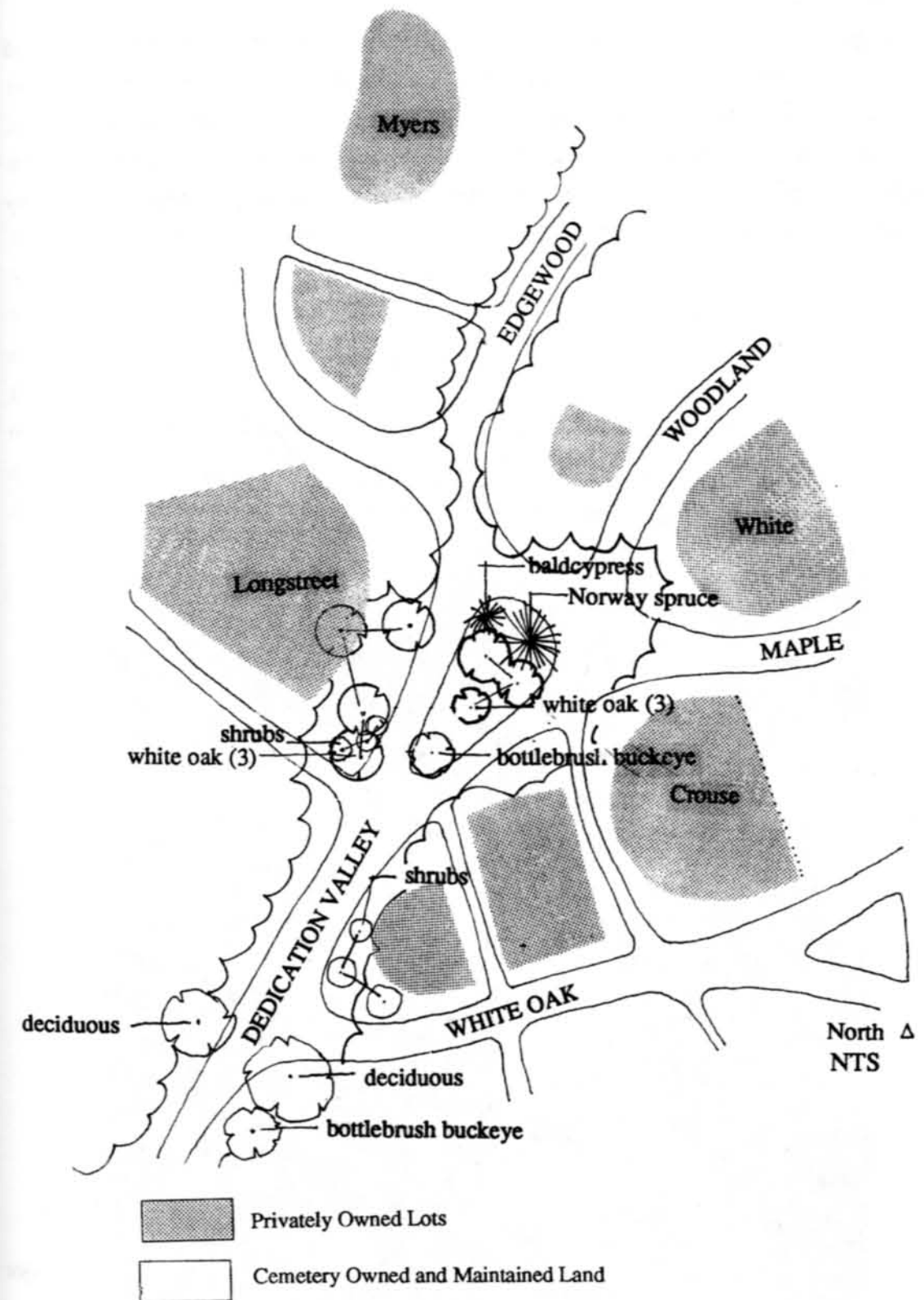


Figure 4.12 Plan of island in Inner Core, circa 1890s (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Inner Core was defined by the circulation, vegetation, and topography. The Inner Core surrounding Dedication Valley was located in a valley as its name implies. The area was defined by the elongated landforms to the east, the high ridge to the west, circulation, and vegetation (see figure 4.13). The Inner Core was experienced as a space within the cemetery; it was enclosed by the overhead canopy of the trees and by the vertical boundary created by the surrounding landform.

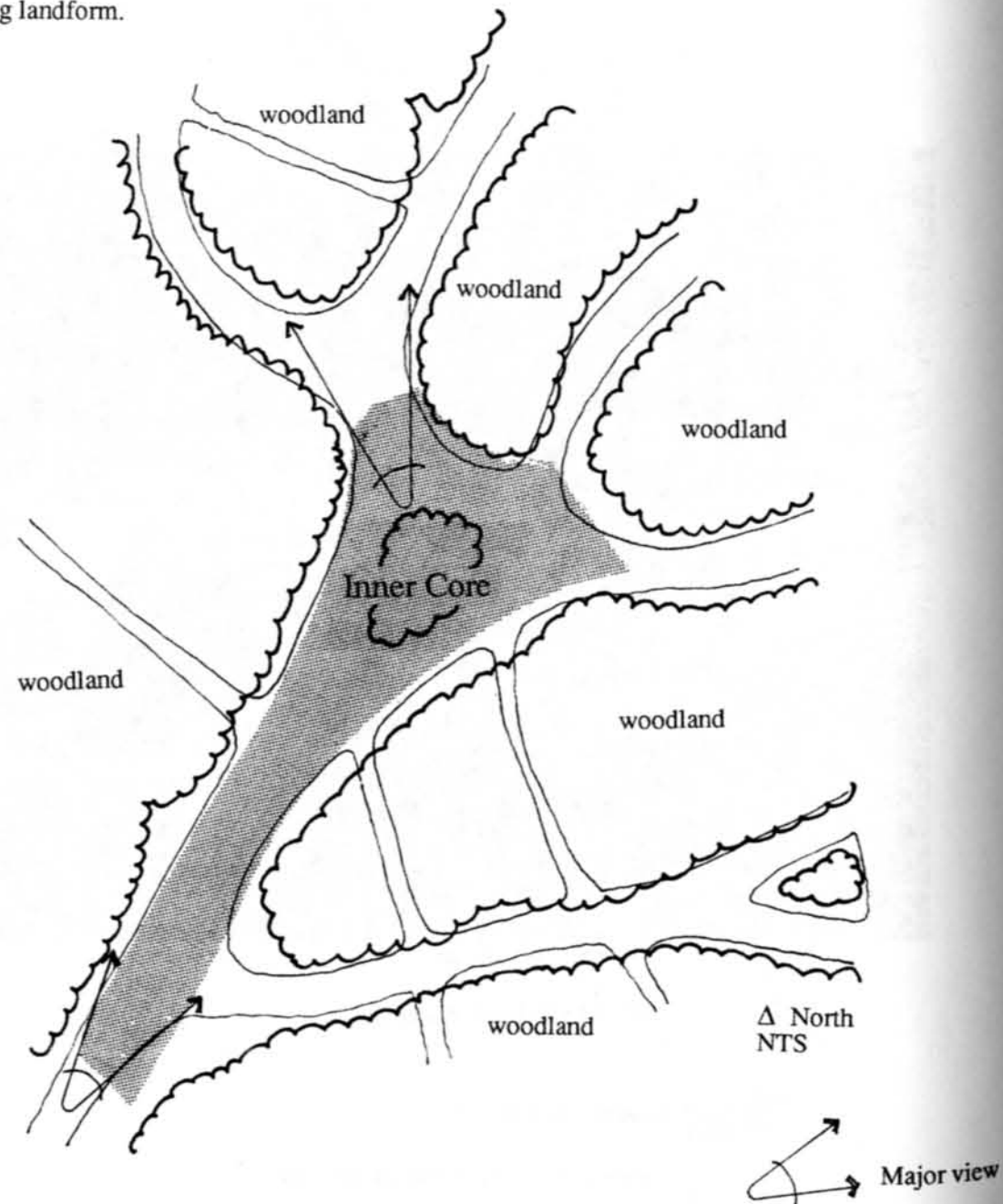


Figure 4.13 Spatial Organization Diagram of the Inner Core, circa 1870s (Day, 1993).

### Views and Vistas

The views and vistas in the Inner Core were internal views. There were no significant views or vistas into other parts of the cemetery from the Inner Core. The vegetation and surrounding landforms blocked views out of this space and thus created a feeling of enclosure. Internal views within the Inner Core, however, were extensive and varied; monuments, topography, and picturesque plantings each contributed to the variety of scenes visible along each section of Dedication Valley. The views of the island and the composition of the Norway spruce, baldcypress, and bottlebrush buckeye were major design elements in the lay out of Dedication Valley (see figure 4.7 and 4.10). Views north, past the island included the Myers Mausoleum as a focal point. The "miniature cathedral", as it was described by H. P. Smith in his history of Oakwood, stood high above Dedication Valley among a stand of evergreens (see figure 4.14). The Longstreet Vault was situated in a prominent position high above Dedication Valley; the large stone pyramid vault was unique and dominated the landscape. The pyramidal form located at the high point of the ridge emphasized the change in elevation and accentuated the steep slopes of the lot.



Figure 4.14 View north from Dedication Valley of Myers Mausoleum, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).

### Circulation

The circulation in the Inner Core was a major organizing element in the space. Dedication Valley was the main avenue that ran north-south through the Inner Core. There were several other avenues that led the visitor to the Inner Core from other parts of the cemetery. Serpentine Avenue was the main avenue from the west ridge of section three. As its name implied, Serpentine wound its way down the steep slope curving past the Myers Mausoleum. The miniature cathedral was the focal point for views from Serpentine Avenue and Dedication Valley. Edgewood Avenue was the main avenue from the east ridge. Edgewood traveled from Lake View, the high point of the cemetery, to the Inner core, the low point of the cemetery. Maple and White Oak Avenues followed the ravines between the parallel landforms of sections eleven, twelve, and thirteen (see figure 4.15).

The roads were constructed to follow the ravines in order to accommodate drainage as well as accentuate the rounded landforms. A complex system of drainage swales were constructed along the roads and avenues. Although the circulation system was foremost functional, the detail and design of the system illustrated a high level of craftsmanship that added to the character of the landscape. According to the photographic documentation the material finish of the roads was compacted soil and gravel.

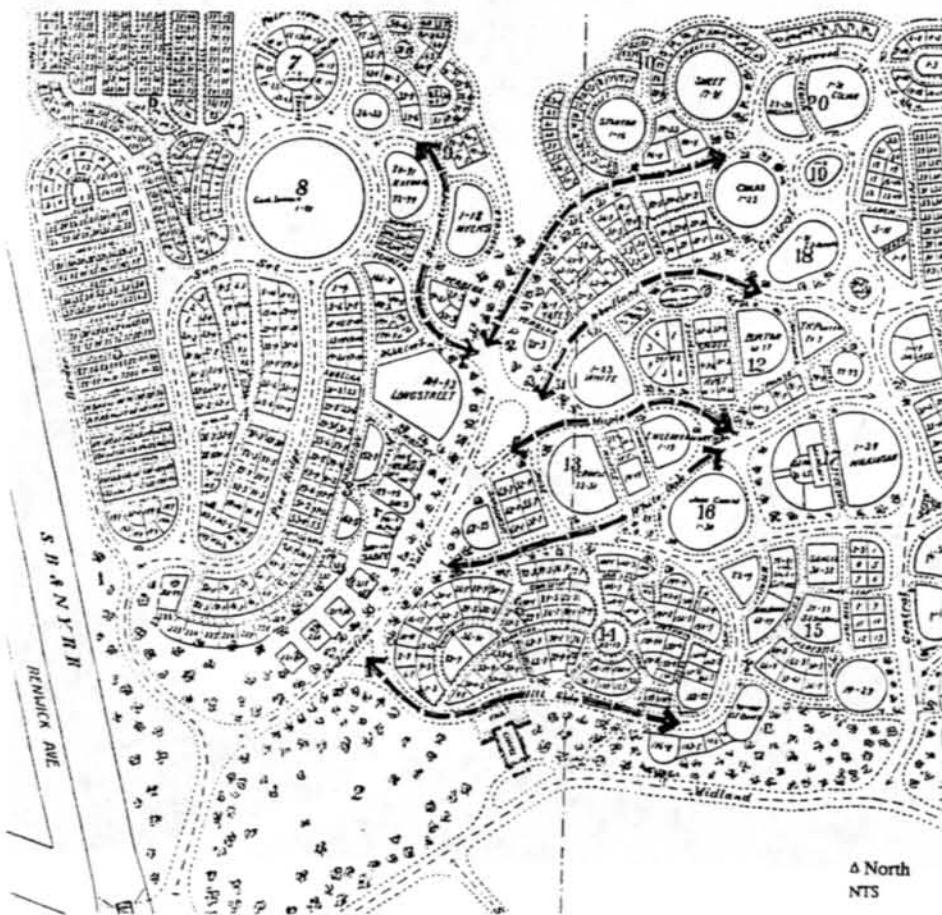


Figure 4.15 Avenues that lead to Dedication Valley, 1890s (Map by R. Griffin, Jr., 1898).

### Furnishings and Objects

Furnishings and objects in the Inner Core provided detail and diversity while addressing functional needs and aesthetic concerns. Historic photographs illustrate a number of furnishings in the Inner Core. Street signs, section signs, and hitching posts, all constructed of cast iron, were used throughout the cemetery. These items were placed in the cemetery by the trustees; the signs were a part of the public landscape.

Privately owned lots also contained a variety of furnishings. The type, style and material of the furnishing varied according to the taste of the lot owner. Benches, arbors, and hitching posts were common furnishings found on many of the larger family lots. Historic views of the lots illustrate the variety of lot furnishings (see figures 4.16).

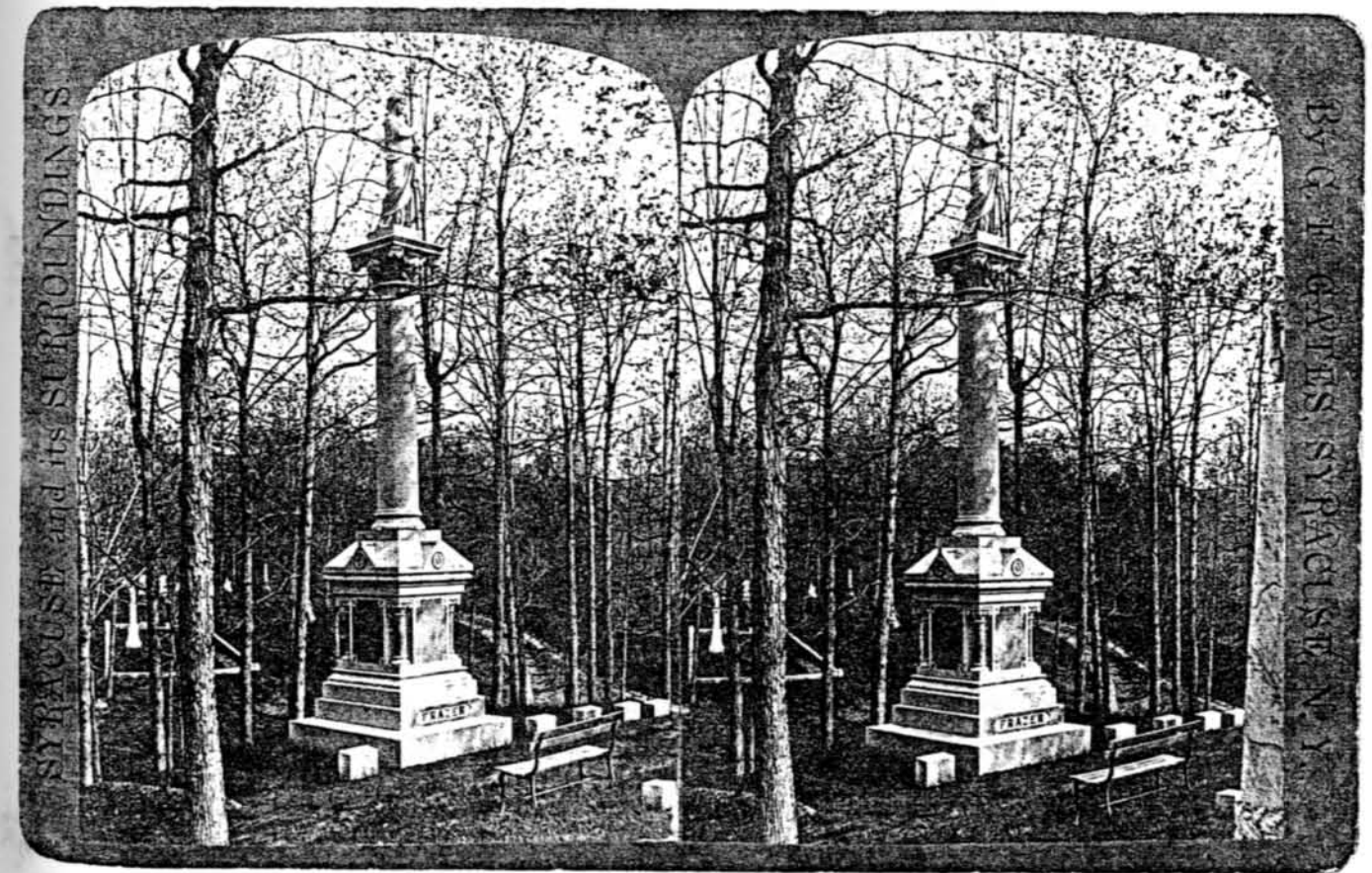


Figure 4.16 View of Frazer Monument with wood bench on lot, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).



## EXISTING CONDITIONS

The historic character of the Inner Core has been altered by the change in vegetation and circulation material, but retains its spatial organization due to the unchanged topography and road location. While the vegetation and the material of the circulation has been altered significantly, the topography and location of the circulation remains in its original location. The existing condition of the Inner Core was recorded. Field work verified the location of roadways, trees and other site features. Photographs, field notes, and observation were used for recording plant materials, circulation systems, and existing features. Due to the fact that there was no current base map or topographic map, recording existing conditions was difficult. Locations of features such as trees, buildings and roads were determined by the aerial photograph taken in 1992 and verified by filed work.

### Topography

The existing topography in the Inner Core continues to provide enclosure and visual interest for this portion of the cemetery. The space is relatively unchanged, although major alterations in the circulation and landform at the south end of the Inner Core have been made at the historic intersection of Hillside and Dedication Valley (see figure 4.17). The area south-east of Dedication Valley was regraded for construction of the new road that leads to lead the visitor directly from the Chapel to Dedication Valley. The alteration of the landform opens the Inner Core to the south, and thus alters the feeling of enclosure and spatial organization.

### Buildings and Structures

The existing mausoleums and major monuments continue to contribute to the historic character of the cemetery. Although examination of each monument in the Inner Core was not completed for this report, each of the mausoleums and major monuments located in the Inner Core exists in their original location with the exception of the Colvin Dog which was removed from the cemetery in July of 1993. Their careful placement on the lots is evident in the landscape today.

### Vegetation

The existing vegetation in the Inner Core is characterized by woodland areas and individual trees. The woodland areas do not provide enclosure along Dedication Valley. The woodland areas are generally located on the ridges; the vegetation documented along Dedication Valley in the late 1800s does not exist. Several large oak stumps are located on the west side of Dedication Valley on the Longstreet Lot (see figure 4.17).<sup>121</sup> Rings counted on the stumps date the trees to pre-1860.

Existing vegetation located on the island consists of three trees. One baldcypress, one Norway spruce, and one American yellowwood. A large shrub, bottlebrush buckeye, is located on the

south end of the island (see figure 4.18). The baldcypress, Norway spruce, and bottlebrush buckeye were documented in the circa 1880s and circa 1890s photographs (see figures 4.7, 4.8, and 4.10).

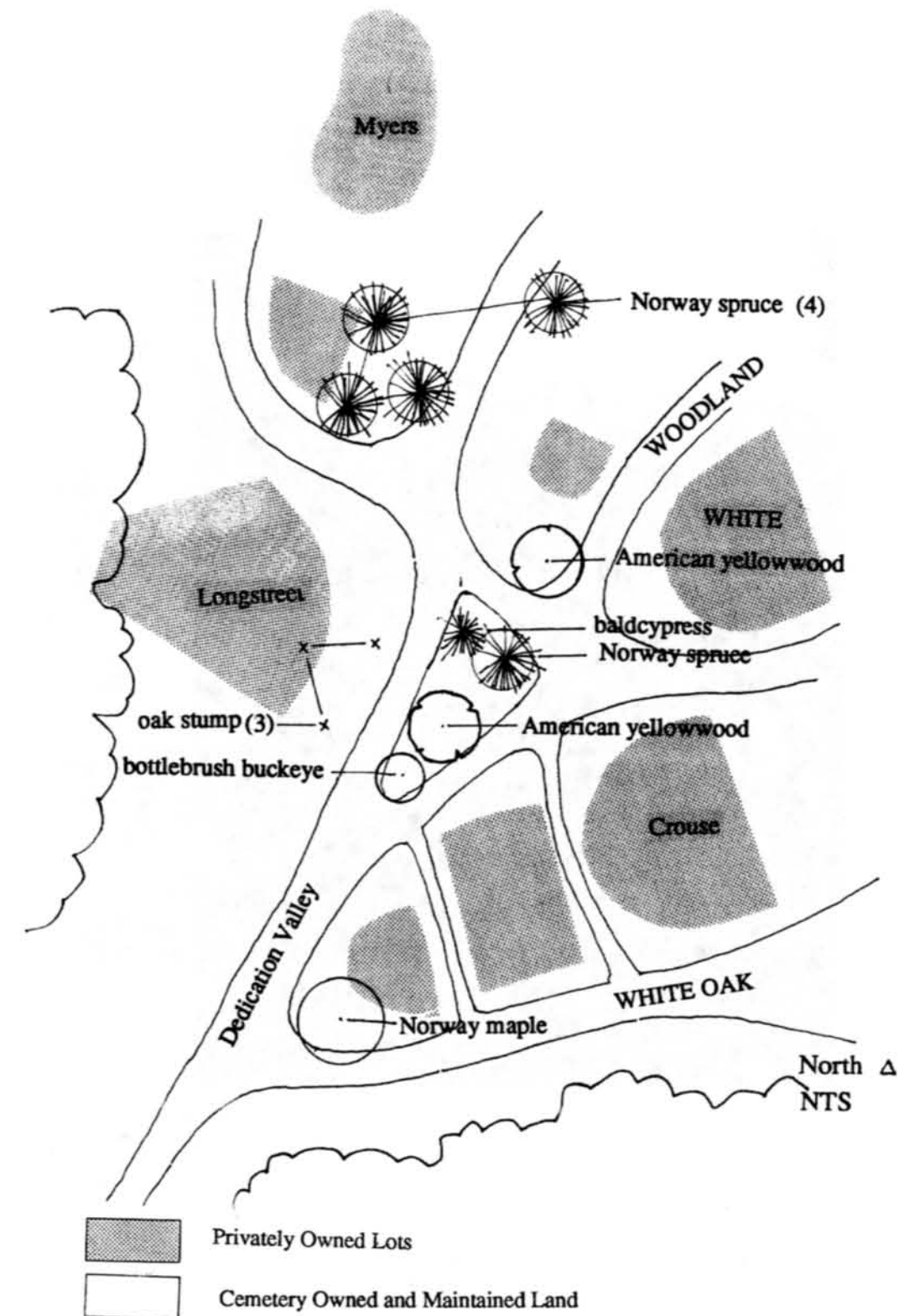


Figure 4. 17 Existing Conditions Plan of Inner Core (Day, 1993).

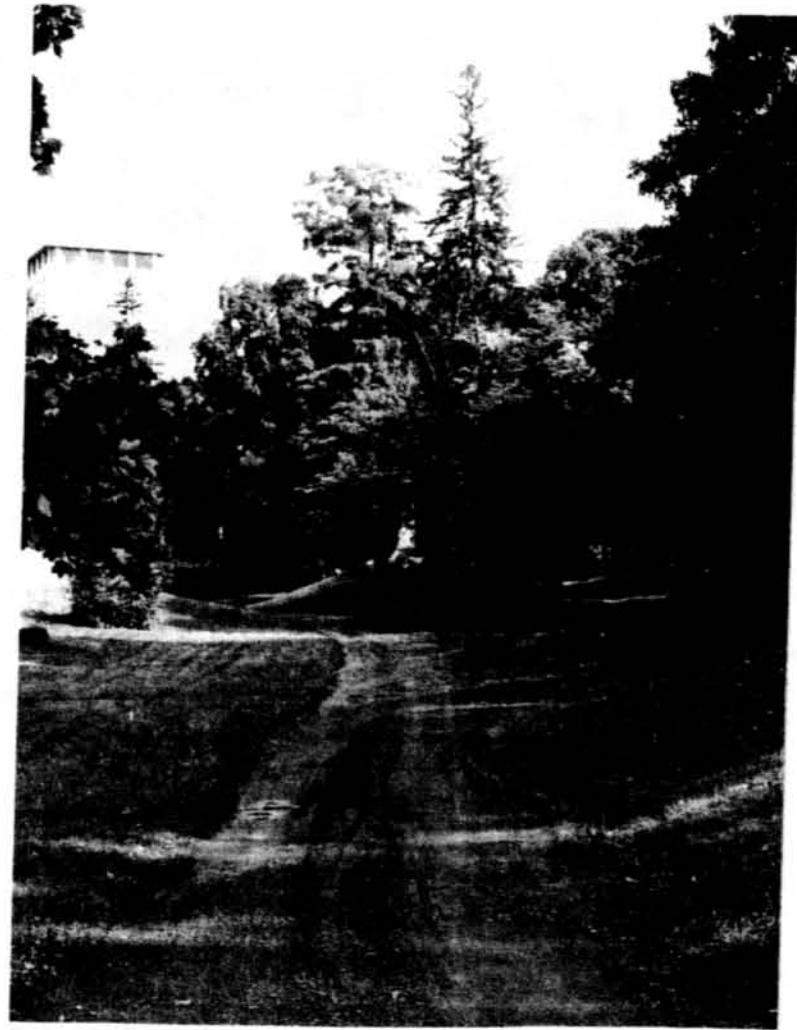


Figure 4.18 View of Dedication from the south illustrating the island (Day, 1993).

Existing woodland areas are sparse compared to the dense woodland character that was documented in historic photographs. A view of the Inner Core from the west illustrates the lack of vegetation in the area surrounding Dedication Valley (see figure 4. 19).



Figure 4.19 View of Dedication Valley looking south (Day, 1993).



### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Inner Core is open and lacks the degree of definition it possessed historically due primarily to the lack of vegetation and the alterations of the circulation material and landform at the south end of the Inner Core. The decrease of vegetation in the Inner Core affects the feeling of enclosure; the area along Dedication Valley is open and has no overhead canopy (see figure 4.19 and 4.20).

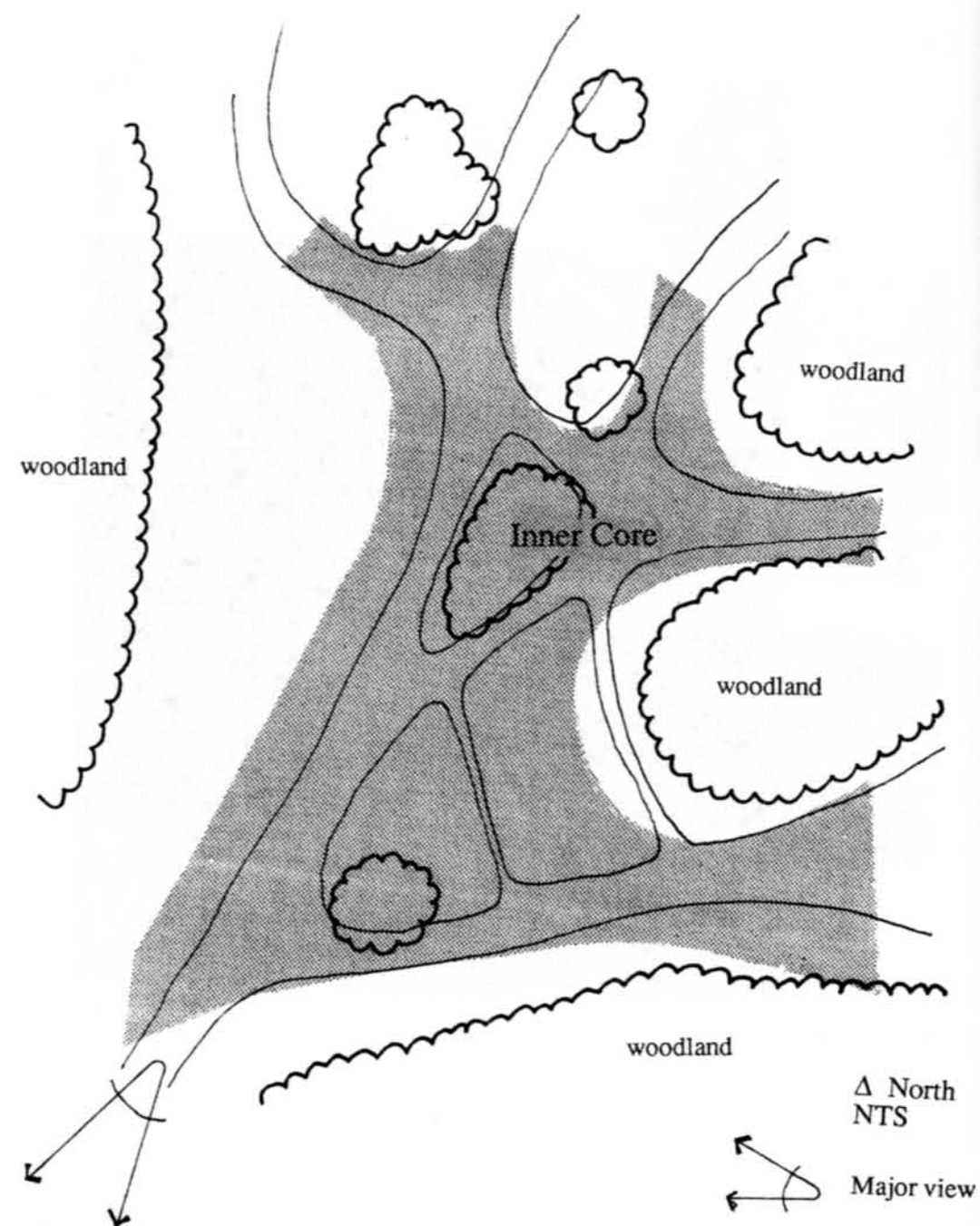


Figure 4.20 Spatial Organization Diagram of Inner Core, 1993 (Day, 1994).

### Views and Vistas

Views and vistas in the Inner Core are open to the Entry Area. Unlike historic views, existing views are not enclosed within the Inner Core. Existing views at the north end of the Inner Core are still restricted within the cemetery by the topography, but the views are less directed. The decrease in the vegetation and the lack of a dense overhead canopy allow open views within the Inner Core. The decrease in vegetation eliminates the framing elements and viewing corridors (see figure 4.21). The loss of the overhead canopy in Dedication Valley is best documented by a comparison of the historic and existing view south along Dedication Valley. The view today is open and extends to Route 81, while the historic view was blocked by an abundance of dense vegetation (see figure 4.12 and 4.19).



Figure 4.21 View of Dedication Valley from West Ridge (Day, 1993).

## Circulation

Circulation in the Inner Core is a major organizing element in the space. Dedication Valley is the main avenue that runs north-south through the Inner Core. Its alignment at the south end of the Inner Core has been altered. It was relocated when the ridge formation was removed, and the existing road curves south to Midland Avenue (see figure 4.17). Several other avenues that lead visitors from other parts of the cemetery exist. Serpentine Avenue is the main avenue from the west ridge of section three. Edgewood Avenue is the main avenue from the east ridge. Maple and White Oak Avenues follow the ravines between parallel landforms of sections eleven, twelve and thirteen.

Major roads retain their historic location; the road edge is not clearly defined in most areas. The location of existing remnants of the cobblestone gutter system was not recorded for this report. No cobblestone gutters exist on Dedication Valley. The absence of the cobble gutters detracts from the organization and contrast provided by the historic roads. The clear definition between the road material and the surrounding turf areas accentuated the landforms and provide foreground, middle and background interest for views. The existing roads lack this definition. The material finish of the roads is compacted soil and gravel.

## Furnishings and objects

Remnants of furnishings and objects from the historic period exist in the Inner Core. The remnants of a street sign are located at the south end of section thirteen. Although no horse posts exist in the public areas of the cemetery several exist on privately owned lots such as the lot of Hamilton and Horace White.

## ANALYSIS

The analysis of the Inner Core presents a comparison of the landscape features during the historic period to the existing features of the area. A comparison of the historic documentation with the existing conditions of the area determines which site features contribute to the inner core's integrity. A contributing feature is one "... present during the period of significance, and possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is capable of yielding important information about the period."<sup>122</sup> A non-contributing feature is one "... not present during the significant period, or due to alterations, disturbances, additions, or other changes, it no longer possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is incapable of yielding important information about the period."<sup>123</sup>

## Topography

**Historic Condition:** The topography of the Inner Core provided enclosure and visual interest for this portion of the cemetery. Historic photographs and period descriptions were the sole source of information regarding topography in the Inner Core. The topography defined the space by providing boundaries on the east and west; the ridge to the west created

a uniform visual and physical barrier along the entire length of Dedication Valley. The slope to the east of Dedication Valley sloped more gently to the high point of the east ridge and was punctuated by depressions. The deep, parallel depressions were formed by the elongated landforms aligned north-south throughout the site. The landform was accentuated by the location of the roads and lots; the roads were located in the depressions between the rounded hills which provided visual interest.

**Existing Condition:** The existing topography in the Inner Core continues to provide enclosure and visual interest for this portion of the cemetery. The space is relatively unchanged, although major alterations in the circulation and landform at the south end of the Inner Core have been made at the historic intersection of Hillside and Dedication Valley. The area south-east of Dedication Valley was regraded for construction of the new road to lead the visitor directly from the Chapel to Dedication Valley. The alteration of the landform opens the Inner Core to the south, and thus alters the feeling of enclosure and spatial organization.

## Analysis: Existing, Contributing

The topography in the Inner Core retains its historic form in most areas. One area of major alteration is located at the intersection of Hillside and Dedication Valley. The ridge that once extended behind the Chapel was regraded to accommodate a new road from the Chapel Dedication Valley. The removal of the ridge removes the vertical boundary that enclosed the Inner Core. The topography at the north end of Inner Core reflects the original character of the area, and therefore it is a contributing feature.

## Buildings and Structures

**Historic Condition:** There are no buildings in the Inner Core. The mausoleums and major monuments in the Inner Core provide unique compositions and views for the cemetery. The mausoleums and major monuments are an important part of the cemetery landscape. Their location in the landscape affects views, contrast, and variety in the compositions of the cemetery. The mausoleums and monuments are placed carefully in order to accentuate their location in the cemetery. Placed at the high point of the lot, and situated to command views from surrounding avenues and lots, the monuments emphasize the topography of the lot. Often the location and orientation of the monument accentuates the unique form or natural feature of the individual lot.

**Existing Condition:** The existing mausoleums and major monuments continue to contribute to the historic character of the cemetery. Although examination of each monument in the Inner Core was not completed for this report, each of the mausoleums and major monuments located in the Inner Core exists in their original location with the exception of the Colvin Dog which was removed from the cemetery in July of 1993. Their careful placement on the lots is evident in the landscape today.

## Analysis: Existing, Contributing

The condition of the mausoleums and major monuments was not assessed for this report. The monument's existence in the landscape is integral to the views, contrast, and variety that was so important to the compositions of the rural cemetery in the nineteenth century, therefore they are contributing features.

## Vegetation

**Historic Condition:** The vegetation of the Inner Core was characterized by woodland areas and individual trees planted on privately owned lots and on cemetery owned land. It was the combination of vegetation planted on privately owned lots, on cemetery owned land, and vegetation that existed when the cemetery was constructed that created the composition of the cemetery landscape. Dense vegetation provided framing elements and viewing corridors. Historic photographs illustrate a variety of plantings. Species included baldcypress, Norway spruce, oak, and bottlebrush buckeye.



**Existing Condition:** Existing vegetation located in the Inner Core is characterized by mature trees. The existing woodland areas do not provide enclosure to the extent they did historically. The woodland areas are generally located on the ridges and the vegetation documented along Dedication Valley in the late 1800s does not exist. Several large oak stumps are located on the west side of Dedication Valley on the Longstreet Lot. Rings counted on the stumps date the trees to pre-1860.

Existing vegetation located on the island consists of three trees: one Norway spruce, one baldcypress, and one American yellowwood. A large shrub, bottlebrush buckeye, is located on the south end of the island.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The condition of the existing vegetation located in the Inner Core was not assessed for this report. The existing woodland areas do not provide enclosure to the extent they did historically. The Inner Core has a great deal less vegetation than once existed.

The condition of the three trees location on the island was assessed. The yellowwood, located in the center of the island, is in poor condition. It was probably planted ninety to one hundred years ago.<sup>124</sup> It was not planted in the historic period and was not meant to be a part of the view in Dedication Valley. One Norway spruce, one baldcypress, and one bottlebrush buckeye, located on the north and south ends of the island, are in good condition. The vegetation on the island retains its important location at the termination of Dedication Valley, and the maturity of the trees adds to their significance in the views from all parts of the Inner Core. The Norway spruce, baldcypress and bottlebrush buckeye exist from the historic period, therefore they are contributing features.

### Spatial Organization

**Historic Condition:** The spatial organization of the Inner Core was defined by the circulation, vegetation, and topography. The Inner Core surrounding Dedication Valley was located in a valley as its name implied. The area was defined by the elongated landforms to the east, the high ridge to the west, circulation, and vegetation. The Inner Core was experienced as a space within the cemetery; it was enclosed by the overhead canopy of the trees and by the vertical boundary created by the surrounding landform. Views were confined to the Inner Core from Dedication Valley which created a feeling of enclosure.

**Existing Condition:** The spatial organization of the Inner Core is open and lacks definition due primarily to the lack of vegetation and the alterations of the circulation and landform at the south end of the Inner Core. The absence of vegetation in the Inner Core affects the feeling of enclosure; the area along Dedication Valley is open and has no overhead canopy.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The spatial organization of the Inner Core was defined by the circulation, vegetation, and topography. Two of these features continue to contribute to the spatial organization. The topography exists in its original location and continues to create boundaries to the Inner Core on the east and west of Dedication Valley. The lack of vegetation, however, alters the degree of enclosure by removing the overhead canopy and vertical elements along Dedication Valley.

### View and Vistas

**Historic Condition:** The views and vistas in the Inner Core were internal views. There were no significant views or vistas into other parts of the cemetery from the Inner Core. The vegetation and surrounding landforms blocked views from this space and thus created a feeling of enclosure. Internal views within the Inner Core, however, were extensive and varied; monuments, topography, and picturesque planting each contributed to the variety of scenes visible along each section of Dedication Valley.

**Existing Condition:** Views and vistas in the Inner Core are open to the Entry Area. Unlike historic views, existing views are not enclosed to the Inner Core. Existing views at the north end of the Inner Core are still restricted within the cemetery by the topography, but the views are less directed. The lack of a dense overhead canopy, and vegetation in general, allow the views to be open. The lack of vegetation eliminates the framing elements and viewing corridors. The loss of the overhead canopy in Dedication Valley is best documented by comparing the view south along Dedication Valley. The view today is open and extends to Route 81, while the historic view is blocked by an abundance of dense vegetation.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

Although views and vistas in the Inner Core exist, they are very different from the historic views and vistas. Unlike historic views, existing views are not enclosed to the Inner Core. Existing views at the north end of the Inner Core are still restricted within the cemetery by the topography, but the views are less directed. The lack of a dense overhead canopy, and vegetation in general, allow the views to be open. Although the lack of vegetation eliminates the framing elements and directed views, views within the Inner Core reflect the historic character and are therefore contributing features.

### Circulation

**Historic Condition:** Dedication Valley was the main avenue through the inner core there are several avenues that led the visitor to the inner core. Serpentine Avenue is the main avenue from the west ridge of section three. As its name implies, Serpentine winds its way down the steep slope with an s curve past the Myer Mausoleum. The miniature cathedral is the focal point for views from Serpentine, and Dedication Valley. Edgewood Avenue travels from the high point of the cemetery, Lake View, to the low lying inner core. Maple and White Oak Avenues follow the ravines between the parallel landforms of sections eleven, twelve, and thirteen. According to the photographic documentation the material finish of the roads was compacted soil and gravel.

**Existing Condition:** Circulation in the Inner Core is a major organizing element in the space. Dedication Valley is the main avenue that runs north-south through the Inner Core. Its alignment at the south end of the Inner Core has been altered. It was relocated when the ridge formation was removed, and the existing road curves south to Midland Avenue.

Major roads retain their historic location; the road edge is not clearly defined in most areas. The location of existing remnants of the cobblestone gutter system was not recorded for this report. No cobblestone gutters exist on Dedication Valley. The absence of the cobble gutters detracts from the organization and contrast provided by the historic roads. The clear definition between the road material and the surrounding turf areas accentuated the landform and provided foreground, middle ground and background interest for views. The material finish of the roads is compacted soil and gravel.

**Analysis:**

**Location:** Existing, Contributing

The roads in most of the Inner Core maintain their original location. Dedication Valley's alignment at the south end of the Inner Core has been altered. The road was relocated when the ridge formation was removed, and the existing road curves south to Midland Avenue. The south end of Dedication Valley does not reflect the historic character of the Inner Core, therefore it is not contributing feature. The roads at the north end of the Inner Core continue to reflect the historic character of the Inner Core and therefore they are contributing features.

**Materials:** Non-existing

### Furnishings and Objects

**Historic Condition:** Furnishings and objects in the Inner Core provided detail and diversity while addressing functional needs and aesthetic concerns. Historic photographs illustrate a number of furnishings in the Inner Core. Street signs, section signs, and horse tie posts, all

constructed of cast iron, were used throughout the cemetery. These items were placed in the cemetery by the trustees; the signs were a part of the public landscape. Privately owned lots also contained a variety of furnishings. The type, style and material of the furnishing varied according to the taste of the lot owner. Benches, arbors, and posts to tie a horse were common furnishings that were found on many of the larger family lots. Historic views of the lots illustrate the variety of lot furnishings.

**Existing Condition:** Remnants of furnishings and objects from the historic period exist in the Inner Core. The remnants of a street sign are located at the south end of section thirteen. Although no horse posts exist in the public areas of the cemetery several exist on privately owned lots such as the lot of Hamilton and Horace White.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The existing remnants reflect the historic character of the Inner Core, therefore they are contributing features.

### Summary

The historic character of the Inner Core has not been altered significantly. The only features that have been altered significantly are the vegetation and circulation materials. The topography, circulation location and monuments continue to reflect the historic character of the Inner Core. The Inner Core is documented in several historic photographs as a woodland area with a dense overhead canopy. The trees that exist today are located on the higher elevations. There are few trees along Dedication Valley. The absence of these trees alters the views along the corridor of the Inner Core, creates a different scale of spatial organization, and opens views outside the cemetery boundaries which were never available during the period of significance. The variety of plant material and shrubs on the lots that is identified in the historic documentation no longer exist. The clear definition between the road material and the surrounding turf areas which accentuated the landform and provided foreground, middle ground and background interest for views no longer exists.



This chapter presents the history, existing condition, and an analysis of the landscape features in five privately owned lots. The history section will document the history and development of the privately owned lots through primary research of available photographs, maps and text; the existing conditions section will document the present condition and location of landscape features through field survey; and the analysis will evaluate the landscape feature's integrity through comparison of field survey information and historic documentation.

Oakwood Cemetery was a unique landscape because it was comprised of two zones: the public space, land owned and maintained by the Board of Trustees, and the private space, lots owned and operated by individuals or families (see figure 5.2). This created two levels of detail: the large scale organization of the land, that encompassed the features described in the previous chapters such as topography, circulation, spatial organization and vegetation, and the small scale features of the privately owned lots. While topography, circulation, and the organization of sections and lots were manipulated by the cemetery's designer, Howard Daniels, to create the complex series of spaces throughout the cemetery, each privately owned lot contributed to the complexity and richness of the cemetery's character through introduction of unique planting arrangements, exotic vegetation, and often elaborate monument and site features. Individual lots were delineated and sometimes separated from the surrounding landscape with low stone coping, vegetation, or stone markers (see figure 5.3).

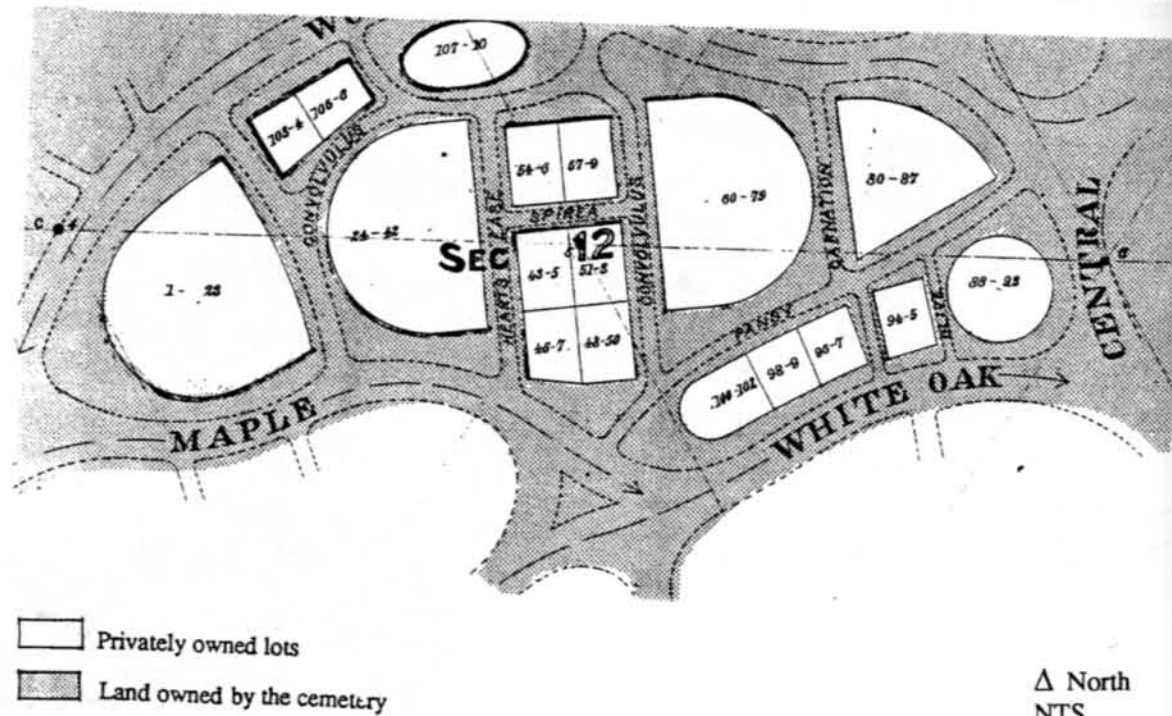


Figure 5.2 The Oakwood Cemetery landscape consists of two zones, the privately owned lots and the land owned and maintained by the cemetery (Map from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

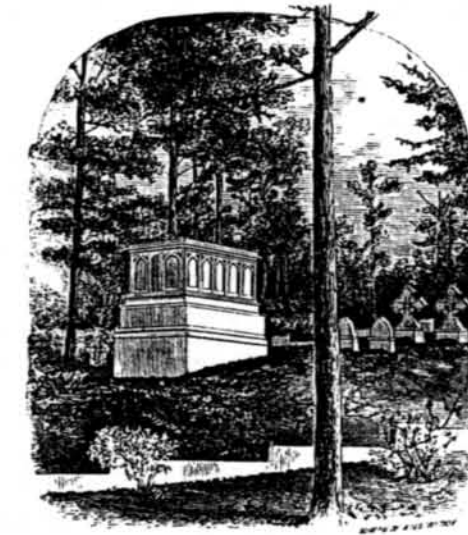


Figure 5.3 View of H. White lot illustrates the use of stone coping to delineate lot boundaries. (Engraving from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871)).

In 1859 the Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery created a classification system in order to determine the price of lots for sale. The resolutions were printed in a Syracuse city newspaper in order to inform interested citizens of the process of selecting and buying a lot:

At a special meeting of the Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery held Nov. 5th, 1859, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That the Section lying next the Binghamton Railroad be called third class grounds; and the price of the lots be 8 cents per square foot.
2. *Resolved*, That the two graded circular sections on the West ridge, temporarily known as section one and two, and the two sections south of ravine be designated as first-class grounds, and that the price of the same be 16 cents per square foot.
3. *Resolved*, That the circular and concentric sections on the high ridge, northwest of the orchard and the four circular and concentric sections south of them be called first class grounds, and that the price of the same be 16 cents per square foot.
4. *Resolved*, That the balance of the grounds be called second class, and that the price be 12 cents per square foot.
5. *Resolved*, That the price of Lots be advanced to 10, 15, and 20 cents per foot, according to their respective grades, on and after the first day of May, 1860.

6. *Resolved* That two hundred square feet constitute a standard Lot.

7. *Resolved*, That the choice of Lots be sold at auction on the grounds on Monday, Nov. 14, at half past 10 o'clock A. M., and that each successful bidder have fifteen minutes to select his lot.

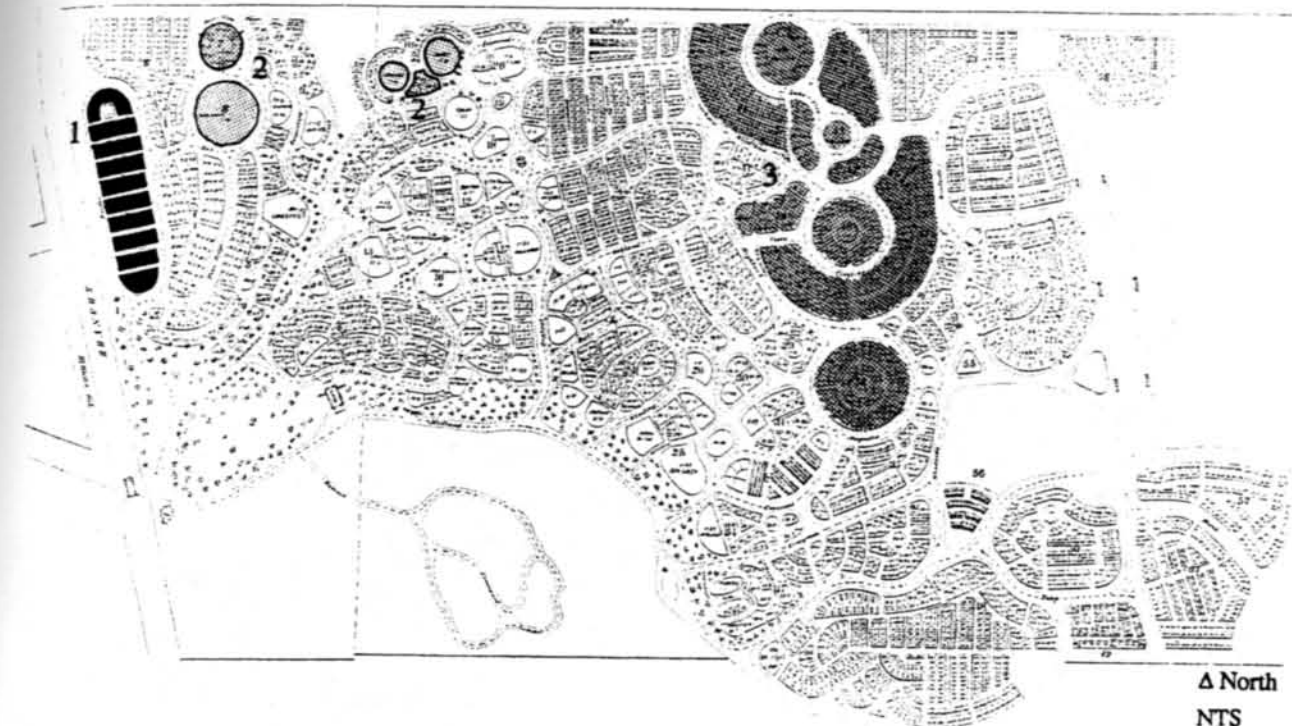
8. *Resolved*, That each successful bidder may choose as many contiguous lots as he may desire for himself and his relatives, by paying the premium on each lot.

9. *Resolved*, That a copy of the above resolutions, together with a notice of the day and hour of sale, be inserted in the three daily papers of this city.

Notice is hereby given that the Engineer will be found during each day on the ground, and will give all the information in relation to the lots which are to be offered for sale. A conspicuous stake will be placed in the center of each lot on which will be marked the number, the ridge and the minimum price. It is particularly desirable that such citizens as propose to purchase lots should go upon the grounds between this and the day of sale, and make selections of such as they desire to bid upon in order to be able to designate their choice as soon as the sale is declared off to them. A train of cars will leave the depot of the Binghamton Railroad at a quarter past 10 o'clock on the day of sale, and will carry citizens to the grounds free of charge.<sup>126</sup>

The class distinctions were made according to the lot's location in the cemetery; according to the resolutions lots located on high points with views were the most valuable. The first resolution, for example, stated "that the Section lying next the Binghamton Railroad be called third class grounds; and that the price be 8 cents per square foot." The area on the western boundary did not have any landform variation; the hillside sloped uniformly west to the railroad tracks (see figure 5.4). The uniform slope as well as the lot's position next to the railroad tracks dictated their third class rating. The second resolution stated "that the two graded circular sections on the West ridge, temporarily known as section one and two, and the two sections south of ravine be designated first-class grounds, and that the price of the same be 16 cents per square foot." Although the "graded circular sections on the West ridge" are easily recognizable on the plan, the "two sections south of ravine" that are referred to are more difficult to locate (see figure 5.4). Lots and sections were analyzed in order to locate the "two sections south of ravine" using the price paid per square foot. As a result of the analysis, the two circular sections in section ten were identified as the "two sections south of ravine" and first class grounds (see figure 5.5). Each of the first class lots were located in a high point of the cemetery and offered views to the city and also views to the surrounding cemetery.

The organization of the cemetery that resulted from these class distinctions is apparent when the cemetery is examined as a whole (see figure 5.4). The first class lots were located along ridges and at high points and were further emphasized with geometric shapes such as circles. Third class lots occupied the uniform slopes and were organized by straight rows of rectangular lots. The organization was clear whether one was looking at the plan of the cemetery, or walking through the landscape. The circular lots located on rounded hills were dominant in position and in form.



Resolutions:




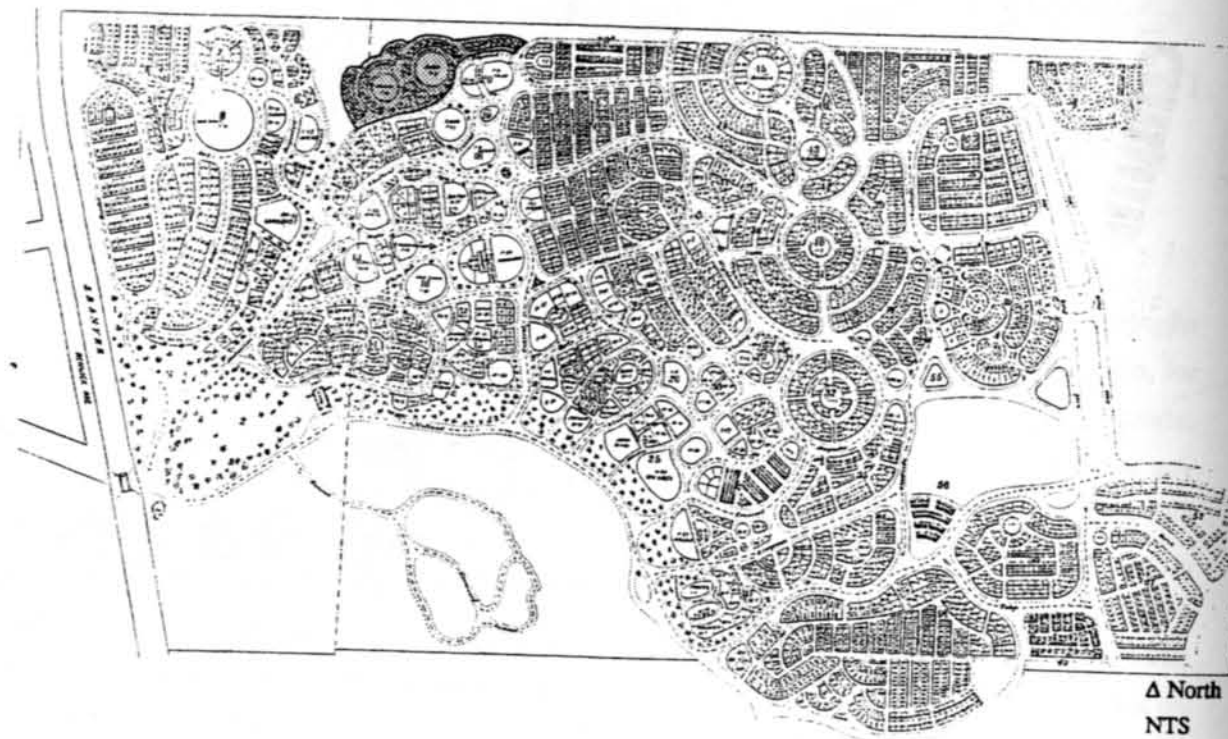
-  1st The section lying next to the Binghamton Railroad be called third class grounds; price is eight cents per square foot.
-  2nd The two graded circular sections on the west ridge, and the sections south of ravine be designated as first class grounds; price is sixteen cents per square foot.
-  3rd The circular and concentric sections on the high ridge, northwest of the orchard and the four circular and concentric sections below them be called first class; price is sixteen cents per square foot.

Figure 5.4

Map showing class delineation adopted by Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery in 1959 (Day, 1994, from map by R. Griffin Jr., c 1898).



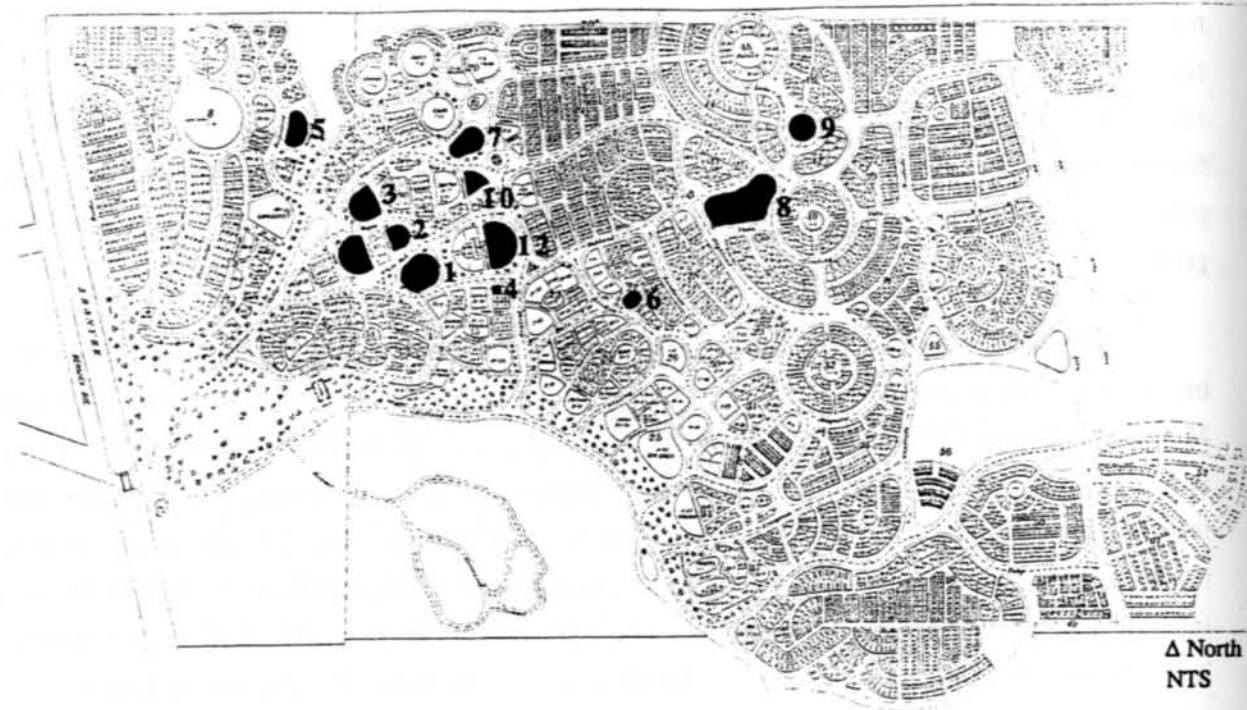


Classification	Date Purchased	Trustee	Section	Lot	Size (sq. ft.)	Price / sq. ft.	Total Price
First Class	December 1, 1864	Horace Sweet	10	17-41	5,026	0.25	\$1,256.50
First Class	May 30, 1867	Andrews	10	49-53	846	0.25	\$267.00
First Class	June 4, 1867	John Mann	10	42-45	4,672	0.25	\$211.00
	August 20, 1864	Rufus Stanton	10	1.16	3,217	0.16	\$514.72

An analysis of the lot classification system reveals that class designation was not an important part of the lot purchasing process; the class alone did not dictate the desirability of a lot. The designations were more importantly an aid in deciding lot prices. Each lot was not classified: resolution one classified the section next to the railroad; resolution two classified the West ridge and sections south of ravine; and resolution three classified the northwest ridge. The fourth resolution states that the balance of the grounds be called second class. The "balance of the grounds" encompassed the greater part of the cemetery. The lot class is not listed in the Deed Book with other purchase information and thus, it appears not to be important or necessary for any reason other than price.

The actions of the Trustees, and their selection of lots offers valuable clues to the cemetery organization. Each of the twelve original trustees purchased lots in the cemetery. Only one trustee, Munroe, purchased a lot that had been classified as "first class." Allen Munroe, the trustee secretary, purchased Section 43 in 1862. The Deed Book documents that he paid sixteen cents per square foot, thus, his lot was considered first class (see figure 5.6). When examining the location of the other trustees' lots a pattern is visible. Eight of the twelve trustees selected lots located in the area surrounding Dedication Valley: Austin Myers, Hamilton White, Thomas Alvord, Elias Leavenworth, John Crouse, John Wilkinson, Timothy Porter and J. P. Haskins. The remaining four trustees purchased lots in areas to the east of Dedication Valley (see figure 5.6). These lots were all designated second class, and in each case the trustees purchased a number of contiguous lots to create a large area.

Figure 5.5 An analysis of section ten revealed that these were classified First Class in 1859 (Day, 1994, from map from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



	Date Purchased	Trustee	Section	Lot	Size (sq. ft.)	Price / sq. ft.	Total Price
1	January 23, 1860	John Crouse	16	1, 21	6,608	0.12	\$728.16
2	August 24, 1860	Elias Leavenworth	13	1, 13	2,687	0.12	\$322.44
3	September 1, 1860	Hamilton White	12	1, 23	4,672	0.12	\$560.64
4	January 1, 1861	J. Dean Hawley	15	2, 3	400	0.12	\$48.00
5	August 1, 1862	Austin Myers	9	1, 18	3,731	0.12	\$447.72
6	October 1, 1864	Robert Wynkoop	27	23, 29	1,508	0.12	\$180.96
7	June 29, 1868	Thomas Alvord	18	1, 21	4,321	0.12	\$518.52
8	July 27, 1868	J. P. Haskins	38	1, 42	9,866	0.19	\$1,906.03
9	May 13, 1869	Allen Munroe	43	1, 16	3,216	0.12	\$386.04
10		Timothy Porter					
11		Archibald Powell					
12		John Wilkinson					

Note: The lot information for Timothy Porter, Archibald Powell, and John Wilkinson was not found in the Deed Book.

Figure 5.6 The location of the lots selected by the twelve original trustees (Day, 1994, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

When examining the landscape today the composition of the landform and the monuments appear to be planned. The location of large monuments at the top of hills created a unified landscape scene. Each monument emphasized the elevations of and changes in the topography. Although no documentation exists to explain if this was Daniels's intent, his design for the cemetery was responsible for the unity in the landscape. The division of the land into large family plots, instead of a large number of small lots, unified the landscape rather than breaking the composition and form of the landform. Daniels's design helped to maintain a natural landscape punctuated by monuments rather than dominated by them. This pattern is distinct on the plan of the lot organization; the area east of Dedication Valley is characterized predominantly by large lots (see figure 5.7).

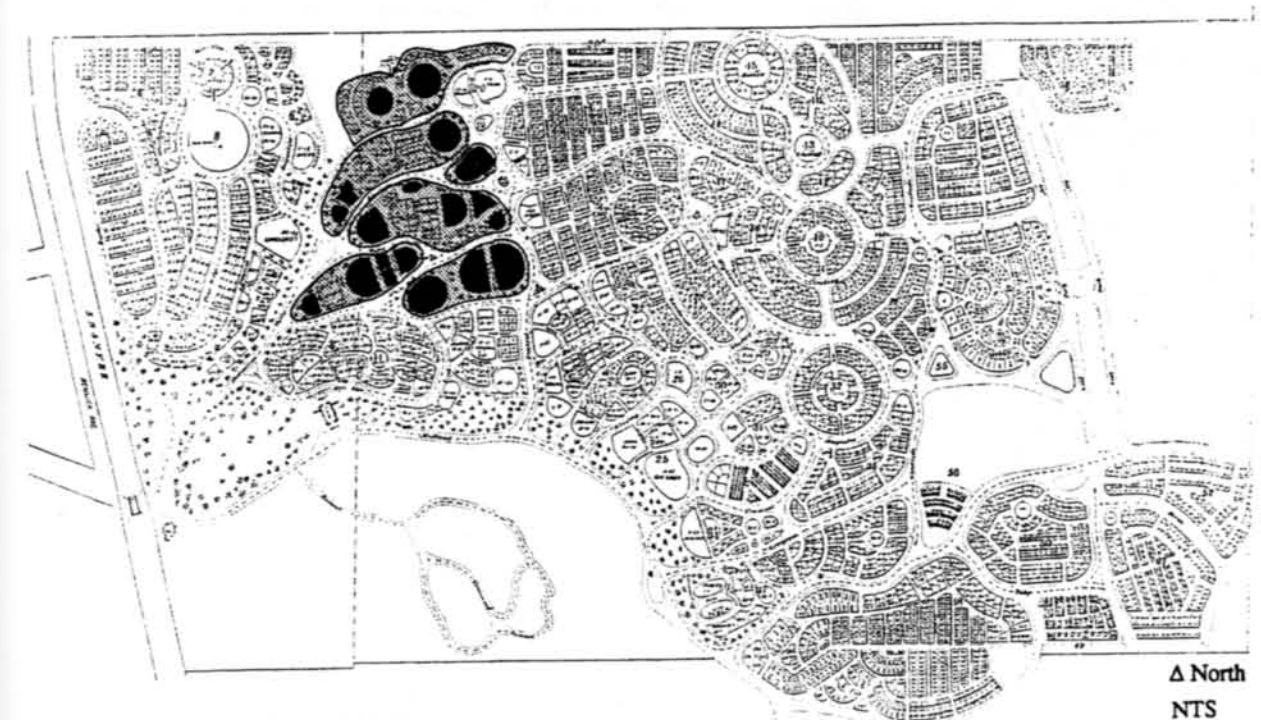


Figure 5.7 Pattern of large family lots delineate the pattern of parallel landforms in the area east of Dedication Valley (Day 1994, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



While there is no information which documents that Howard Daniels's design intent for these areas, the alternative would have altered the appearance of the cemetery significantly. Instead of the landforms being accentuated by single pieces of sculpture, the rounded hills would have been segmented unevenly. The pattern established by the trustees offers the most concrete evidence that these areas were highly valued and intended to retain a uniform character. The trustees, who worked with the cemetery's designer, Howard Daniels, were probably informed of his design intentions and also understood the desirability of the area surrounding Dedication Valley.

The treatment of the lots in Dedication Valley also reflects the established characteristics of a designed rural cemetery. Trustees at Mount Auburn Cemetery, for example, had no precedents to look to or examples to follow when they laid out the first rural cemetery in the United States. The value of nature as well as art was the underlying principle of the rural cemetery movement. Dearborn, the first superintendent of Mount Auburn cemetery envisioned "isolated graves, and tombs surmounted with columns, obelisks, and other appropriate monuments of granite and marble" set amidst the natural scenery.<sup>127</sup> The trustees advocated construction of a single monument on a lot, imposing enough to serve as a memorial to the entire family. Proprietors were also encouraged to construct monuments even before anyone was interred in the lot.

According to the 1859 classification system the five privately owned lots selected for investigation in this chapter were not designated "first class." Instead they consisted of several contiguous second class lots. The purchase of several lots was advised by the eighth resolution: "a successful bidder may choose as many contiguous lots as he may desire for himself and his relatives, by paying the premium on each lot."

## THE GERE LOT

Robert Gere was an important figure in the history of Syracuse's industrial development. He was a salt manufacturer until 1832 when he also became involved in the lumbering of pine from Cicero swamp.<sup>128</sup> The Gere Lot was located in Section seventeen between Oakland and White Oak Avenues in the central portion of the cemetery (see figure 5.8). The Gere Lot covered the west half of an elongated landform. The lot was a semi-circle with its center at the high point of the hill. The land sloped steeply away from the center of the semi-circle. The lots surrounding the Gere Lot were also major family lots; the Crouse Lot to the West and the Wilkinson Lot to the east.

Robert Gere purchased lots thirty-five through sixty-five on August 1, 1862 for \$734.16. The total size of the combined lots was 6,118 square feet. The price on the land was twelve cents per square foot which classified the lot as second class according to the Trustee's 1859 classification system.

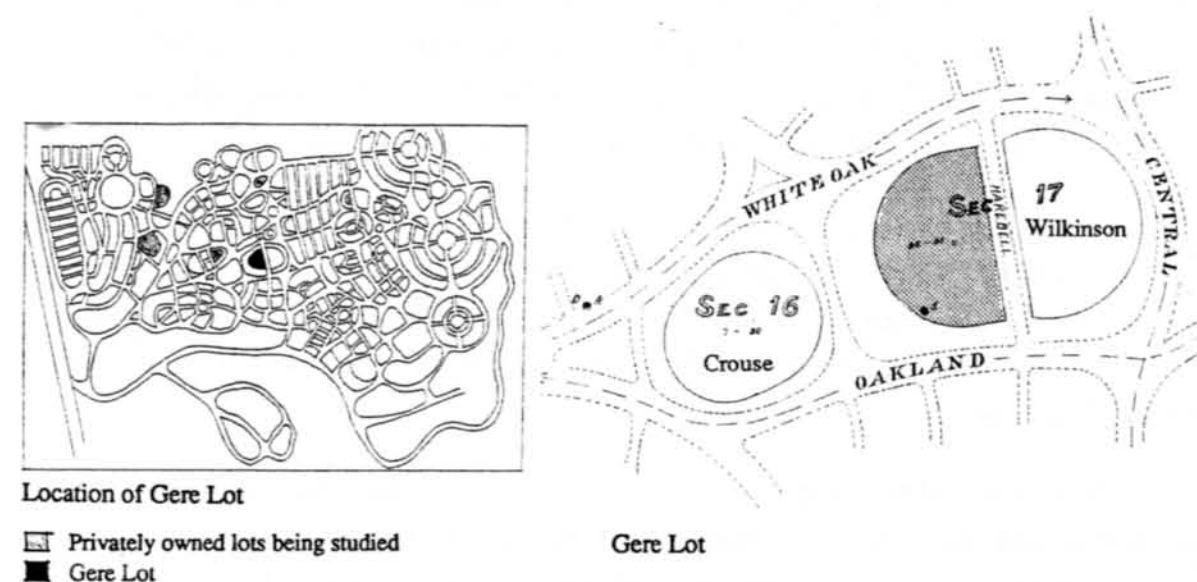


Figure 5.8

Location of the Gere Lot

a. Location of Gere Lot in cemetery (Map from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).

b. Location in section (Map from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

## HISTORY

Several historic photographs document the Gere Lot. The earliest photograph is circa 1880, and the other two are circa 1894. The circa 1880 photograph was taken from the south and illustrates the lot before the grand staircase was added. The 1894 photographs were taken from the west and the south, and illustrate the addition of the staircase and a number of gravemarkers.

## Topography

The topography of the Gere Lot was an organizing element in the layout of lot. The Gere Lot occupied the west side of an oval shaped hill (see figure 5.9). The major monument was placed at the level area at the high point of the lot, and the gravemarkers radiated out from this central point (see figures 5.9 and 5.10). The perimeter of the lot had steep slopes.

## Buildings or Structures

No buildings or structures were ever located on the lot.

## Vegetation

The vegetation in the Gere Lot consisted of planted trees and shrubs. The circa 1880 photograph illustrates several deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs (see figure 5.11). A period description of the lot stated: "...the lofty monument of Robert Gere, its vicinity enlivened and beautified by myriads of blooming flowers and rare shrubbery. . . ." <sup>129</sup> The evergreens located at the borders of the lot were young in this photograph. One shrub can be identified as northern white-cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*). <sup>130</sup> Young deciduous trees were located in the foreground of the view. The lot was surrounded by woodland areas. The slopes of the lot were clipped grass.

Records at Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries documented that Robert Gere ordered plant materials from the nursery. Although the records did not include information regarding specific plant material selected, the ledger books for the year 1865 stated that Gere purchased \$49.15 worth of stock on January 10, 1865. Records showed that he purchased three additional orders in the months of January, March and April, 1865.

The circa 1894 photograph from Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood*, illustrates a number of additions that altered the organization of the lot (see figure 5.12). All of the plantings around the major monument that existed in the circa 1880 photograph were removed to make room for the addition of new gravemarkers. Because the 1894 photograph does not show the lot in its entirety, it is not possible to locate any new plantings. The lot was surrounded by woodland areas. The slopes of the lot were clipped grass.

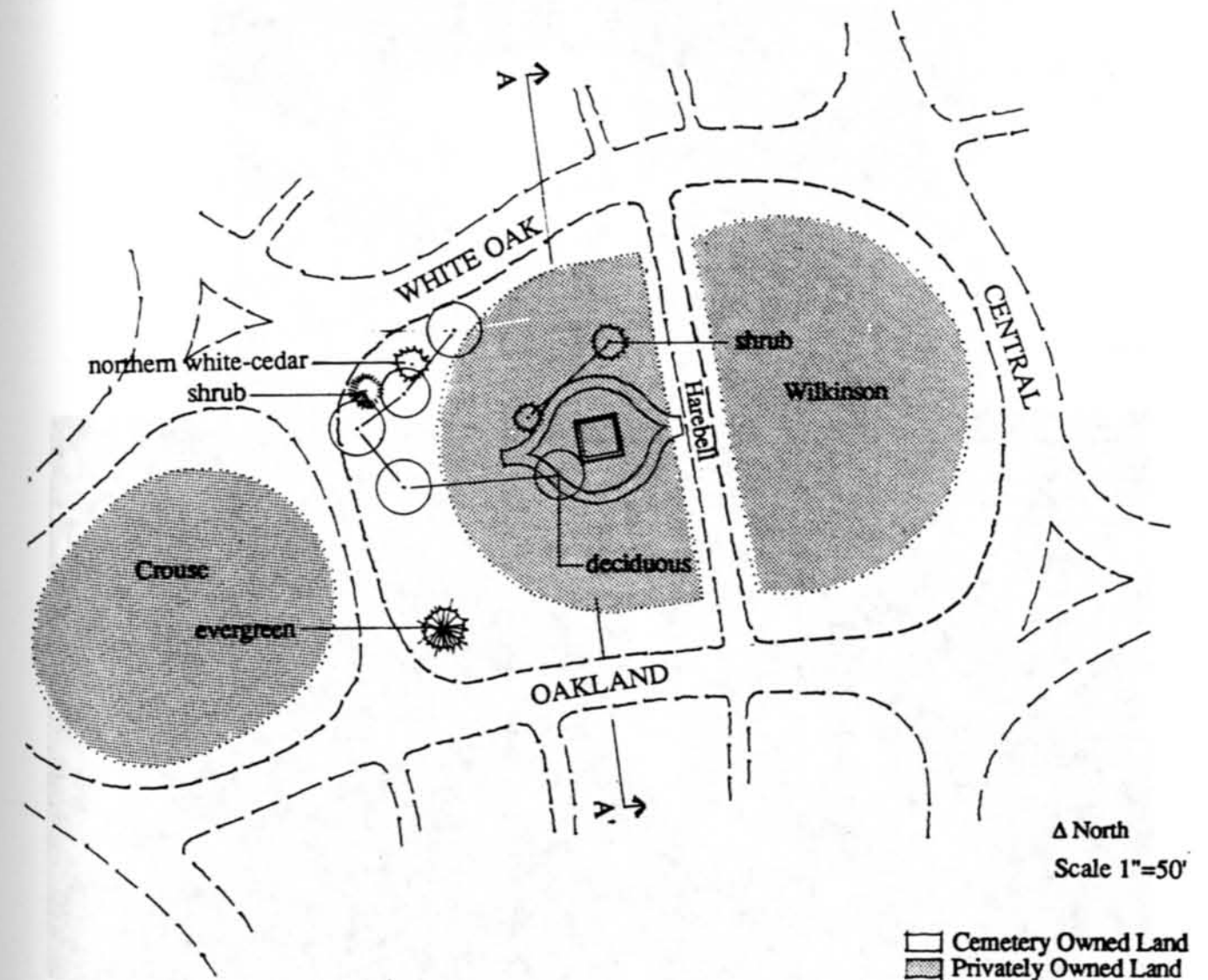


Figure 5.9

Plan of Gere Lot, circa 1880s (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 2898)).



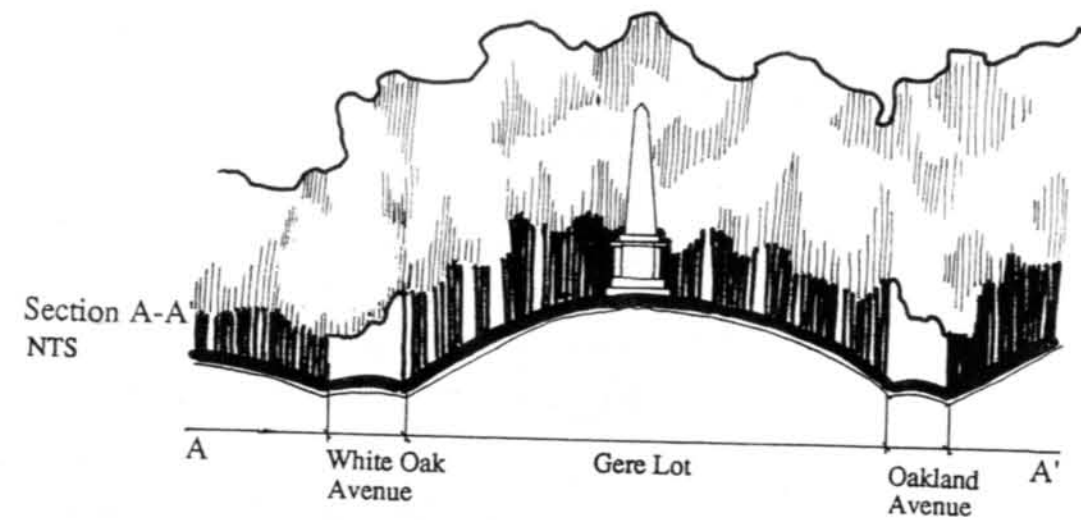


Figure 5.10 Section through Gere Lot (Day, 1993).



Figure 5.11 View of Gere Lot, circa 1880 (Onondaga Historical Association).

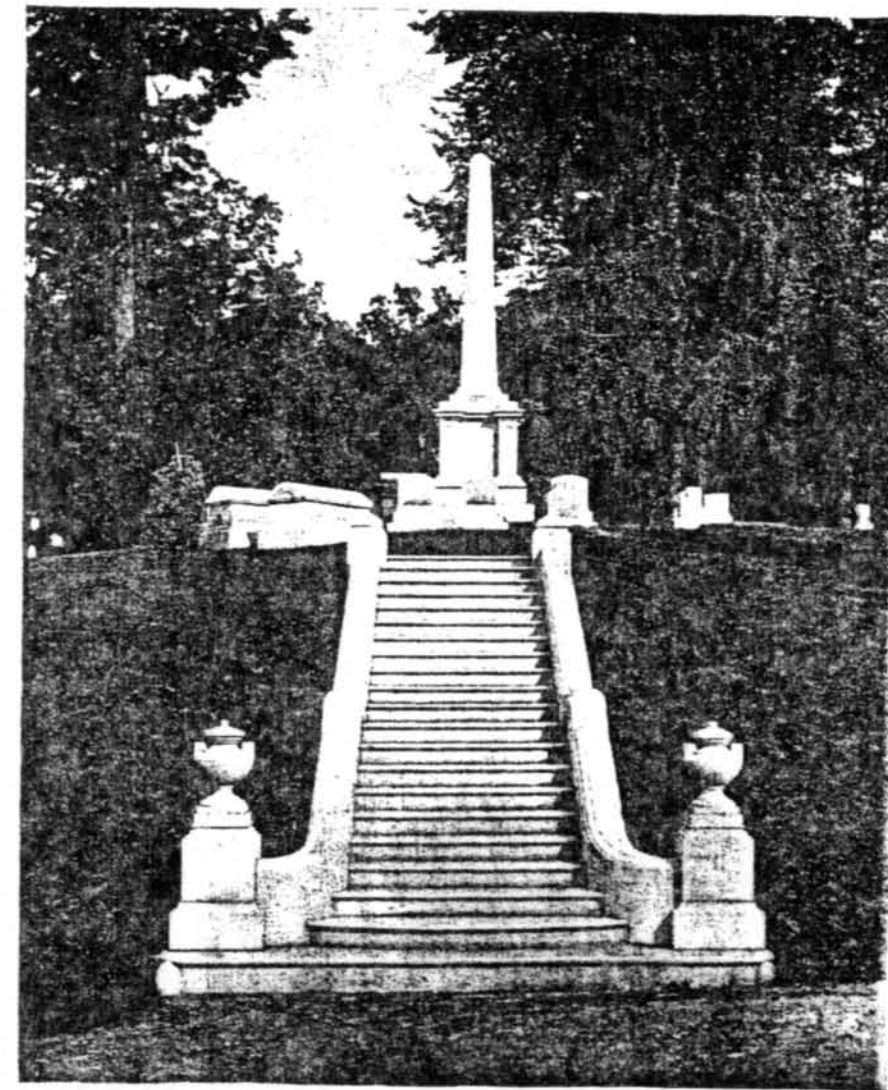


Figure 5.12 View of Gere Lot from west, circa 1894 (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).

## Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Gere Lot was dominated by the distinct landform of the site (see figure 5.14). The Gere Lot was located on a high ridge that extended to the Crouse lot to the east. The roads on either side followed the low lying natural drainage ways. The low profile of the roads created a distinct boundary between the Gere Lot and the surrounding lots which also were located at elevations higher than the surrounding roads. The lot also was organized by vegetation and the monument which were the major vertical elements. The obelisk monument located at the high point of the lot served as the focal point of the lot and paths and gravemarkers were organized around it. The young deciduous trees located at the perimeter of the lot delineated the lower boundaries of the lot.

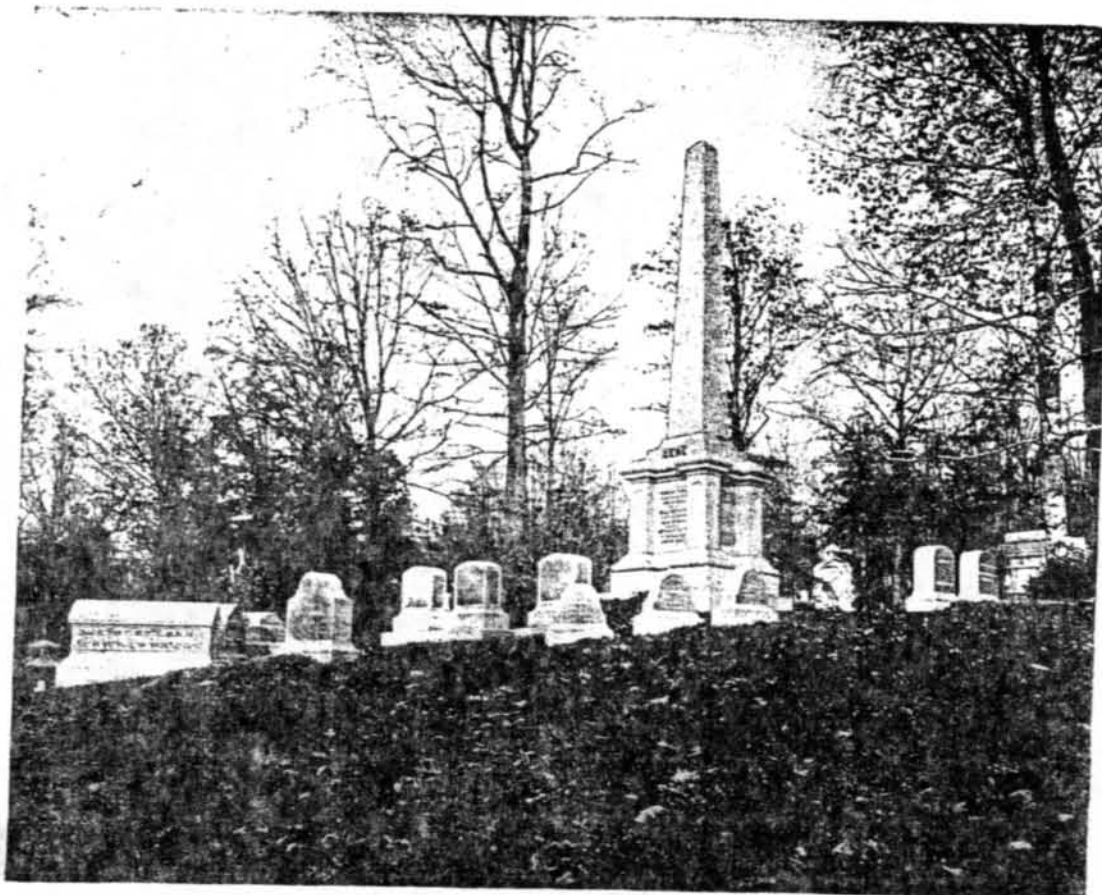


Figure 5.13 View of Gere Lot from south, circa 1894 (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894)).

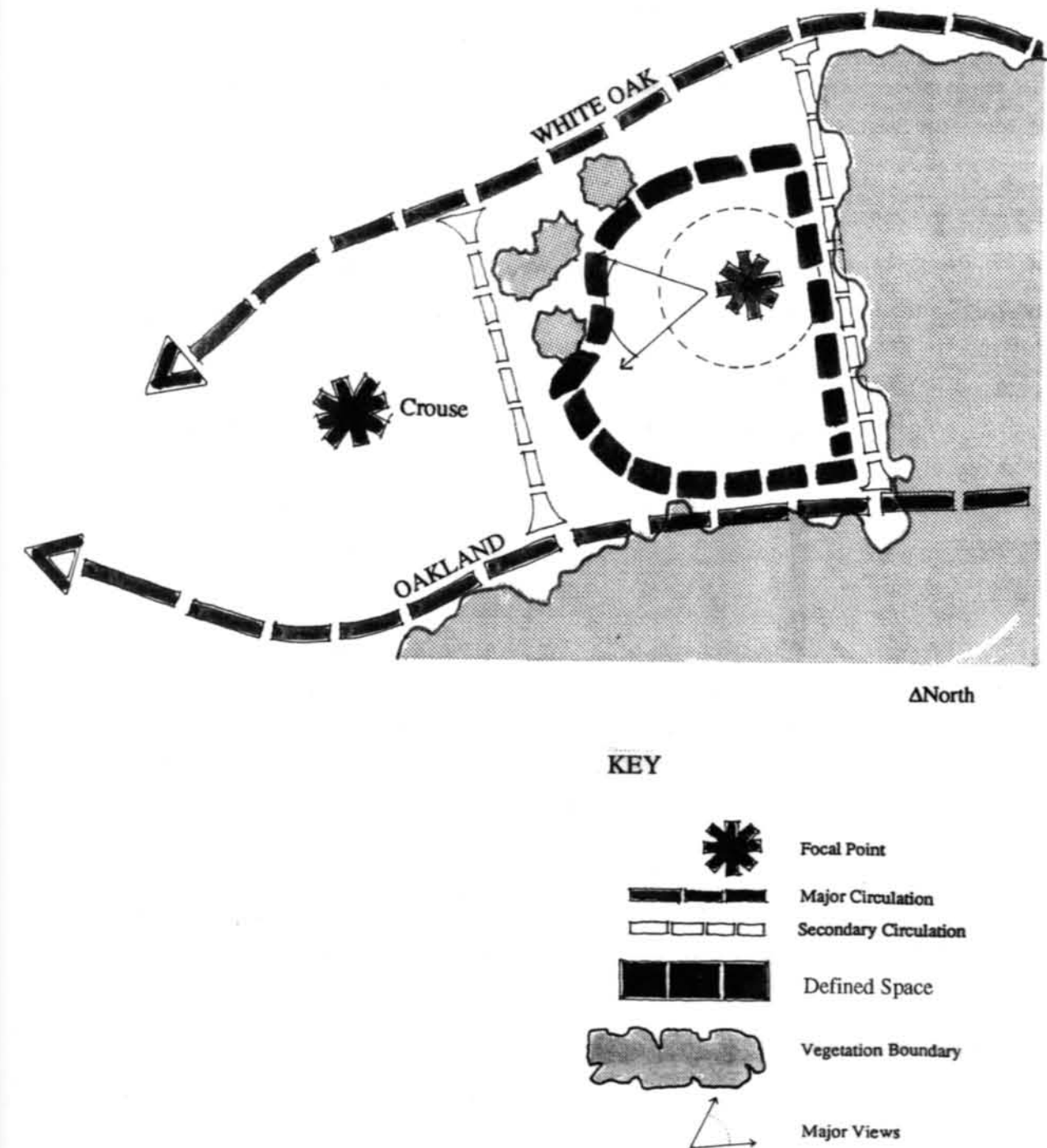


Figure 5.14 Spatial Organization of Gere Lot (Day 1993).



### Views and Vistas

Views and vistas from the Gere Lot were oriented west by the border of trees to the east. Early photographs illustrate woodlands on the eastern boundary of the lot that blocked views to the east. The trees to the east, the topography, and the location of the grand staircase also controlled views to the lot from the surrounding landscape (see figure 5.14). The trees blocked views from the east, while the combination of the landform and the staircase created a composition for viewing from the west. The height of the landform was emphasized by both the verticality of the monument and the verticality of the staircase.

### Circulation

The circulation of the Gere Lot organized and oriented the lot; the circulation system of roads and paths articulated a front and back to the lot. A walkway was located around the central monument. The material finish was gravel or compacted soil. The path that divided Section seventeen in half, Harebell, was the secondary path that carried the visitors in their horse-drawn carriage to the lot. The secondary path, Harebell, allowed visitors to leave their horse-drawn carriage at the rear of the lot. The material finish of Harebell is not known. This organization, locating the carriage or horse access to the rear of the lot, was visible in four of the five privately owned lots investigated.

The 1894 photograph illustrates that a grand staircase was added on the previously inaccessible slope on the western side of the lot. An unnamed path which divided the section connected White Oak Avenue to Oakland Avenue, and provided access to the Gere Lot and the Crouse lot to the east. The surface material of the path was gravel or compacted soil. The addition of the staircase reorganized the circulation of the lot, and also changed its spatial relationship with the larger landscape; the lot was then viewed and entered from the west.

The Gere Lot was accessed by the main avenues White Oak and Oakland. These main avenues connected the Gere Lot to Dedication Valley to the east and Central Avenue to the west. The material finish of the main avenues was compacted soil and gravel. The main avenues contained the cobble gutters that carried runoff from the surrounding lots and roads.

### Furnishings and Objects

Furnishings and objects on the Gere Lot were selected by the family. Lot furnishings such as arbors and planters were aesthetic features of the lot. Monuments and gravemarkers also were selected by the lot owner.

**Obelisk:** The major monument, an obelisk marker, was located at the high point of the Gere Lot. The obelisk is illustrated in the circa 1880 and 1894 photographs. The obelisk was approximately thirty feet tall and constructed of stone.

**Gravemarkers:** The gravemarkers were located in a circular pattern around the Obelisk, are illustrated in the circa 1880 photograph. They were simple square markers approximately eighteen inches tall. The gravemarkers were made of stone.

**Arbor:** The arbor was located at the entrance to the lot west of Harebell. The arbor is illustrated in the circa 1880 photograph. The arbor was an arch form approximately seven to eight feet tall. The arbor was constructed of cast iron.

### EXISTING CONDITIONS

The historic character of the Gere Lot has not been altered significantly. The topography exists in its original form. The form and character of the existing vegetation, circulation, and gravemarkers have changed over time. The existing condition of the Gere Lot was recorded. Field work verified the location of roadways, trees, and other site features. Photographs, field notes, and observation were used for recording plant materials, circulation systems, and existing features. Due to the fact that there was no base map or topographic map, recording existing conditions was difficult. Locations of features such as trees and roads were determined by the aerial photograph taken in 1992 and verified by field work.

#### Topography

The existing topography of the Gere Lot exists in its original form.

#### Buildings and Structures

No buildings or structures were ever located on the lot.

#### Vegetation

The vegetation in the Gere Lot consists of seven trees, three of which exist from the historic period (see figure 5.15). Existing vegetation located in the Gere Lot consists of red hickory (*Carya ovata*), eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) (2), black oak, Norway spruce (2), boxelder, and northern white-cedar. The black oak, Norway spruce, and northern white-cedar exist from the historic period.<sup>131</sup> The lot is surrounded by woodland areas. The slopes of the lot are clipped grass.

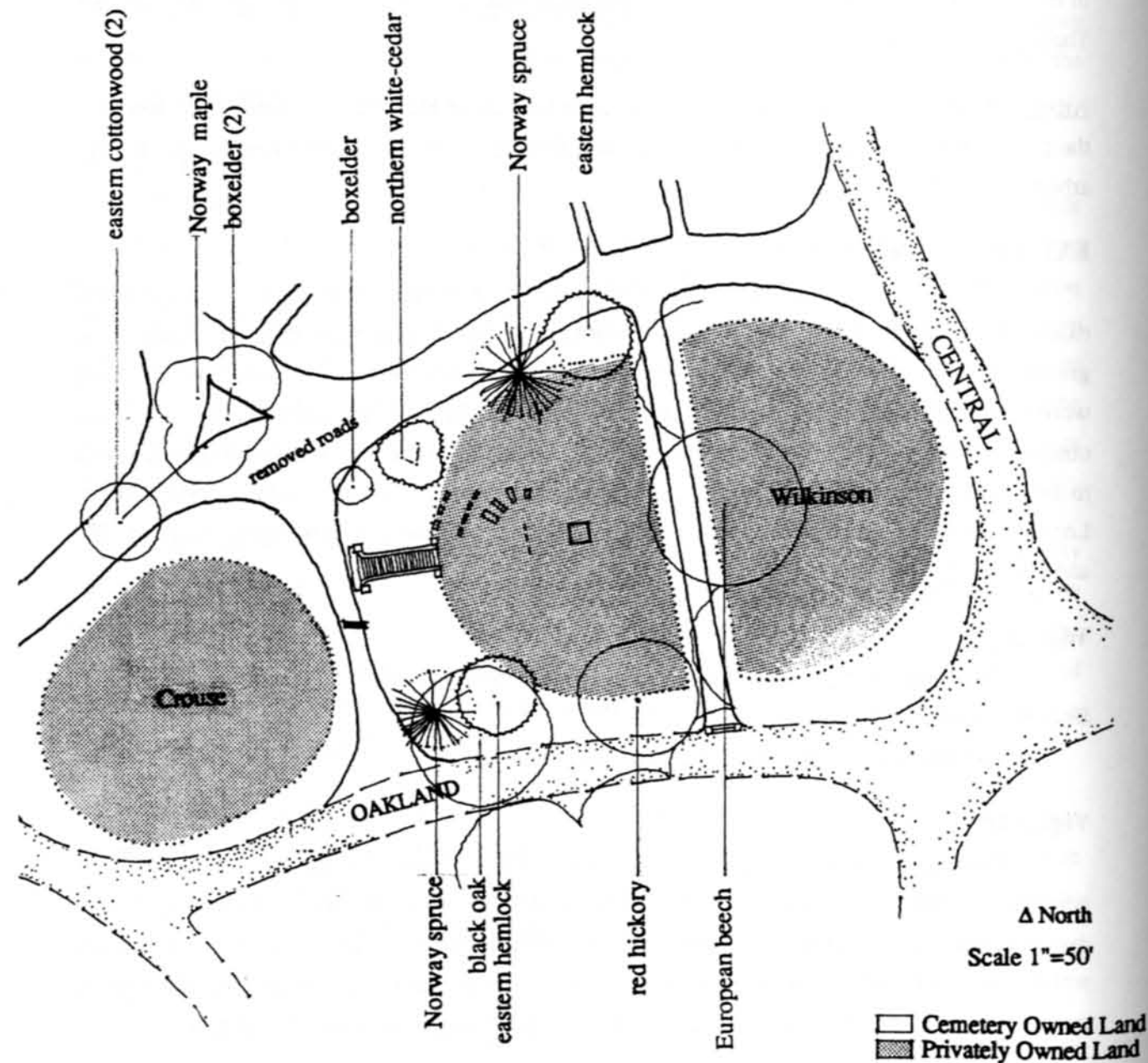


Figure 5.15 Existing Conditions Plan of Gere Lot (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Gere Lot is defined by the topography, circulation, gravemarkers, and vegetation. The mature trees on the site provide a dense overhead canopy on the south and east sides of the lot. The hemlocks on the north of the lot provide a vertical barrier that encloses the lot, but they do not provide an overhead canopy. The center and focal point of the lot is marked by the obelisk and staircase which act as visual and physical organizers of the surrounding gravemarkers (see figure 5.16).

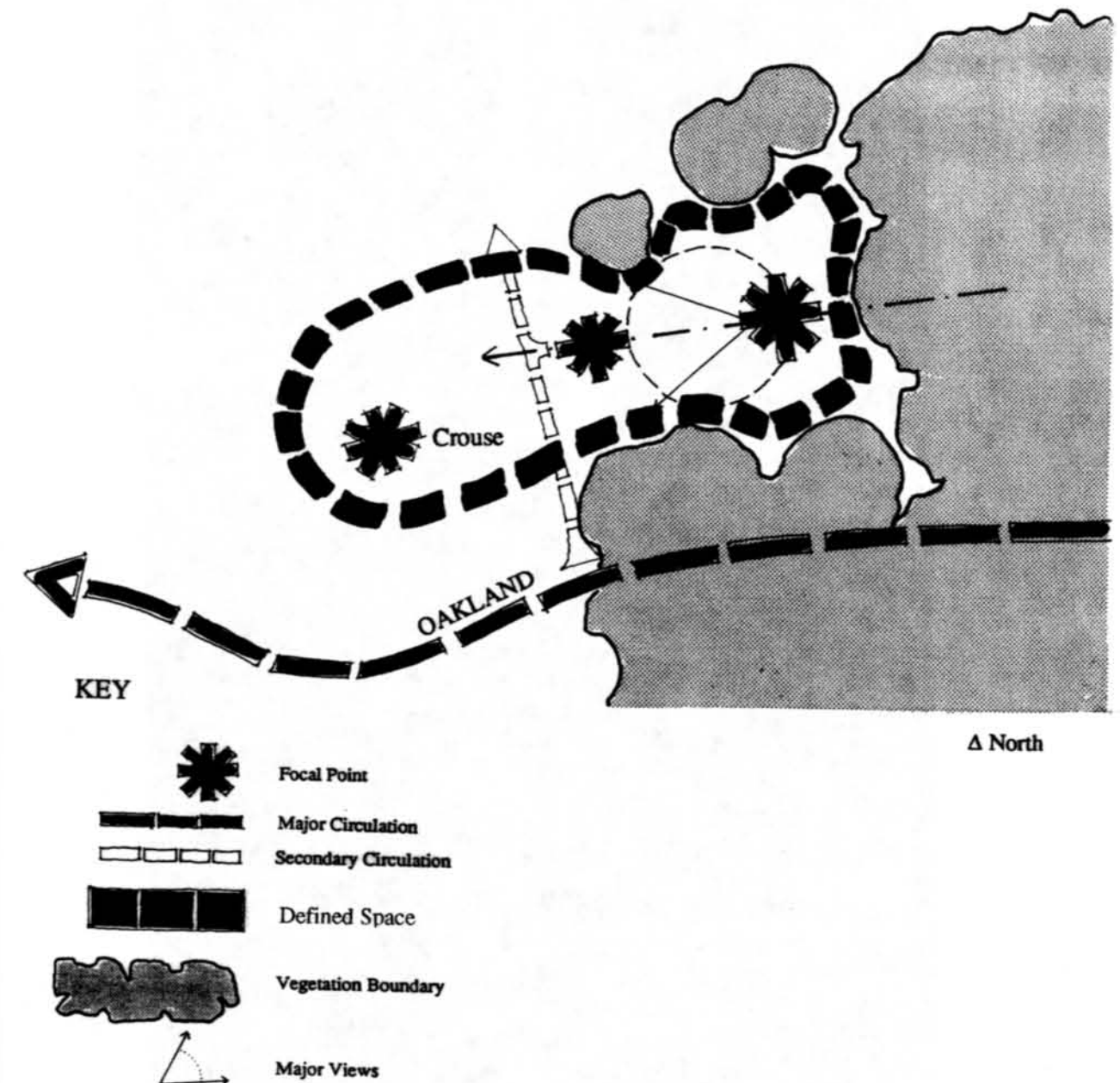


Figure 5.16 Spatial Organization Diagram of Gere Lot 1993 (Day, 1993).



### Views and Vistas

Views and vistas from the Gere Lot are directed west toward the Crouse Mausoleum and Dedication Valley. The mature vegetation to the south and east block views in these directions. The barrier to the east is dense, and views are completely blocked in this direction.

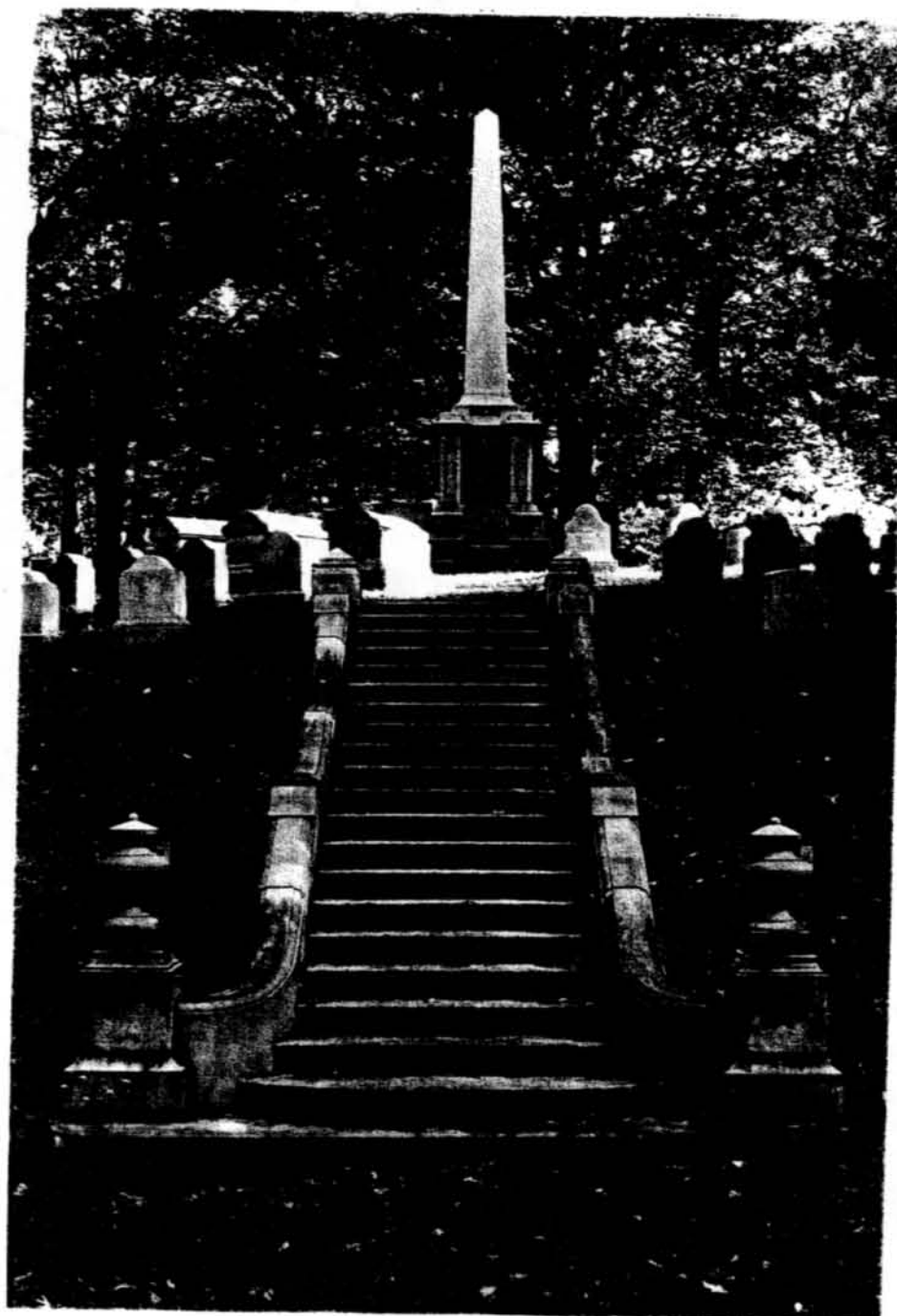


Figure 5.17 View from west of Gere staircase (Day, 1992).

### Circulation

The circulation in the Gere Lot is an organizing element in the lot. The main staircase at the west of the lot articulates the front of the lot. The staircase exists in its original location. The paths of the lot no longer exist. The historic walkway that circled the monument was removed when the staircase was added to the lot. The secondary path, Harebell, which carried the visitors in their horse-drawn carriage to the lot no longer exists in its original condition. The material finish is turf. The location of Harebell is visible by the depressions in the landform. The material finish of the unnamed path that provided access to the Gere Lot and the Crouse Lot is turf. The path is clearly visible in the landform although access from White Oak to Oakland is blocked by the location of a large granite block in the center of the path. The block is a piece of the vandalized staircase of the Crouse Lot.

The Gere Lot was accessed by the main avenues White Oak and Oakland. Oakland Avenue exists in its original location and material. White Oak Avenue is clearly visible in the landform but it no longer functions as a road. The material finish is turf.

### Furnishings and Objects

Furnishings and objects from the historic period in the Gere Lot consist of the Obelisk and gravemarkers. The arbor no longer exists.

Obelisk: The obelisk, located at the high point of the Gere Lot, exists in its original location.

Gravemarkers: The gravemarkers documented in the circa 1880 photograph no longer exist. New gravemarkers have been added to the lot. There are two types, the traditional headstone gravemarker, stone markers approximately eighteen inches high, and the sarcophagus type markers.,

Arbor: The arbor no longer exists. The arbor was located at the entrance to the Gere Lot, west of Harebell.

### ANALYSIS

The analysis of the Gere Lot presents a comparison of the landscape features during the historic period to the existing condition of the lot.

### Topography

**Historic Condition:** The topography of the Gere Lot was an organizing element in the layout of lot. The Gere Lot occupied the west side of an oval shaped hill. The major monument was placed at the level area at the high point of the lot, and the gravemarkers radiated out from this central point. The perimeter of the lot has steep slopes.

**Existing Condition:** The topography of the Gere Lot exists in its original location.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing.

The topography has not been altered. It retains its historic form and elevation and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

**Vegetation**

**Historic Condition:** The vegetation in the Gere Lot consisted of planted trees and shrubs. The circa 1880 photograph illustrates several deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs. The lot was surrounded by woodland area. The slopes of the lot are clipped grass.

**Existing Condition:** Existing vegetation located in the Gere Lot consists of seven trees. One pignut hickory, two eastern hemlock(2), one black oak, one boxelder, two Norway spruce (2), and one northern white-cedar. The lot is surrounded by woodland areas. The slopes of the lot are clipped grass.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The pignut hickory, two eastern hemlocks, boxelder, two Norway spruce and northern white cedar are in good condition. The black oak is in poor condition. The character of the vegetation in the Gere Lot is similar to the historic vegetation. The black oak, Norway spruce, and northern white-cedar exist from the historic period and therefore, they are contributing features.

**Spatial Organization**

**Historic Condition:** The spatial organization of the Gere Lot is dominated by the distinct landform of the site. The Gere Lot was located on a high ridge that extended to the Crouse lot to the east. The roads on either side followed the low lying natural drainage ways. The low profile of the roads created a distinct boundary between the Gere Lot and the surrounding lots which also were located at elevations higher than the surrounding roads. The lot was also organized by vegetation and the monument which were the major vertical elements. The obelisk monument located at the high point of the lot served as the focal point of the lot and paths and gravemarkers were organized around it. The young deciduous trees located at the perimeter of the lot delineated the lower boundaries of the lot.

**Existing Condition:** The spatial organization of the Gere Lot is defined by the topography, gravemarkers, and vegetation. The mature trees on the site provide a dense overhead canopy on the south and east sides of the lot. The hemlocks on the north of the lot provide a vertical barrier that encloses the lot, but they do not provide an overhead canopy. The center and focal point of the lot is marked by the obelisk monument and staircase which act as visual and physical organizers of the surrounding gravemarkers.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The spatial organization of the Gere Lot retains its formal organization created by the staircase, obelisk monument and gravemarker arrangement. The growth of the trees on the lot has increased the dense border of vegetation. The existing spatial organization reflects the historic character and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

**Views and Vistas**

**Historic Condition:** Views from the Gere Lot are oriented west. Early photographs illustrate woodlands on the eastern boundary of the lot that blocked views to the east. The trees to the east, the topography, and the location of the grand staircase also controlled views to the lot from the surrounding landscape. The trees blocked views from the east, while the combination of the landform and the staircase created a composition for viewing from the west. The height of the landform was emphasized by both the verticality of the monument and the verticality of the staircase.

**Existing Condition:** Views from the Gere Lot are directed west toward the Crouse Mausoleum and Dedication Valley. The mature vegetation to the south and east block views

in these directions. The barrier to the east is dense, and views are completely blocked in this direction.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The views from and to the lot are relatively unchanged. The main view to the front of the Gere Lot is intact and reflect the historic character of the lot and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

**Circulation**

**Historic Condition:** The circulation of the Gere Lot organized and oriented the lot; the circulation system of roads and paths articulated a front and back to the lot. A walkway was located around the central monument. The material was gravel or compacted soil. The path that divided Section seventeen in half, Harebell, was the secondary path that carried the visitors in their horse-drawn carriage to the lot. The historic views of the lot were taken from the west which indicates that the west side of the lot was considered the front. The secondary path, Harebell, allowed visitors to leave their horse-drawn carriage at the rear of the lot. The material finish of Harebell is not known.

The 1894 photograph illustrates that a grand staircase was added on the previously inaccessible slope on the western side of the lot. An unnamed path which divided the section connected White Oak Avenue to Oakland Avenue, and provided access to the Gere Lot and the Crouse lot to the east. The surface material of the path was gravel or compacted soil. The addition of the staircase reorganized the circulation of the lot, and also changed its spatial relationship with the larger landscape; the lot was then viewed and entered from the west. Although the staircase makes the lot accessible for pedestrians, Harebell remained the only route accessible to horse-drawn carriages.

The Gere Lot was accessed by the main avenues White Oak and Oakland. These main avenues connected the Gere Lot to Dedication Valley to the east and Central Avenue to the west. The material finish of the avenues was compacted soil. The avenues contained the cobble gutters that carried runoff from the surrounding lots and roads.

**Existing Condition:** The circulation in the Gere Lot is an organizing element in the lot. The main staircase at the west of the lot articulates the front of the lot. The staircase exists in its original location and is in stable condition. The paths of the lot no longer exist. The historic walkway that circled the monument was removed when the staircase was added to the lot. The secondary path, Harebell, which carried the visitors in their horse-drawn carriage to the lot no longer exists in its original condition. The material finish is turf. The location of Harebell is visible by the depressions in the landform. The material finish is turf. The path is clearly visible in the landform although access from White Oak to Oakland is blocked by the location of a large granite block in the center of the path. The block is a piece of the dismantled staircase of the Crouse Lot.

The Gere Lot was accessed by the main avenues White Oak and Oakland. Oakland Avenue exists in its original location and material. White Oak Avenue no longer functions as a road. The material finish is turf.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The circulation in the Gere Lot is an organizing element in the lot. The historic surface material of White Oak, Harebell and the unnamed secondary path to the west of the lot no longer exist, but the location of the roads and paths in the landscape are visible. The location and size of the grand staircase continues to dominate the surrounding landscape and articulates entrance to the lot. While the lot's boundaries are no longer defined by a change of material, the topography continues to separate the lot from the surrounding landscape. Although the material finish of the circulation has been altered, its location is visible in the Gere Lot and therefore, it is a contributing feature.



## Furnishings and Objects

### Obelisk

**Historic Condition:** The major monument, an obelisk marker, was located at the high point of the Gere Lot. The obelisk is illustrated in the circa 1880 and 1894 photograph. the obelisk was approximately thirty feet tall and constructed of stone.

**Existing Condition:** The obelisk, located at the high point of the Gere Lot, exists in its original location.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The condition of the obelisk was not assessed for this report. The obelisk exists in its original location and reflects its historic character and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

### Gravemarkers

**Historic Condition:** The gravemarkers were located in a circular pattern around the Obelisk. The gravemarkers are illustrated in the circa 1880 photograph. The gravemarkers were simple square markers approximately eighteen inches tall. The gravemarkers were constructed of stone.

**Existing Condition:** The gravemarkers documented in the circa 1880 photograph no longer exist. New gravemarkers have been added to the lot. There are two types, the traditional headstone gravemarker and the sarcophagus type markers.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The condition of the gravemarkers was not assessed for this report. New gravemarkers have been added to the lot. There are two types, the traditional headstone gravemarker and the sarcophagus type markers. The gravemarkers reflect the historic character and therefore, they are contributing features.

### Arbor

**Historic Condition:** The arbor was located at the entrance to the lot west of Harebell. The arbor is illustrated in the circa 1880 photograph. The arbor was an arch form approximately seven to eight feet tall. The arbor is constructed of cast iron.

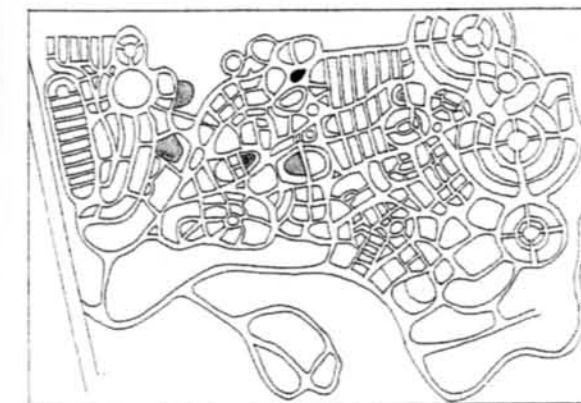
**Existing Condition:** The arbor no longer exists. The arbor was located at the entrance to the Gere Lot, west of Harebell.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

## THE HOYT LOT

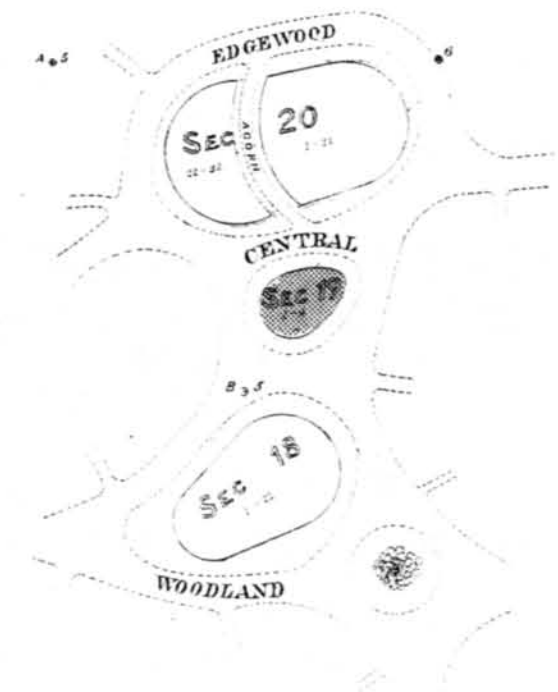
Hiram Hoyt was a well respected surgeon in the city of Syracuse. The Hoyt Lot was located in Section nineteen at the center of Central Avenue (see figure 5.18). The lot was located in a prominent position; situated at the intersection of four major avenues it was visible as the visitor approached the lot from the west, east, north and south (see figure 5.18). The prominent location was further emphasized by its circular shape, symmetrical design, and low stone coping that separated it from the surrounding roads. The lot was located at the halfway mark on the path that brought the visitor from the low point in Dedication Valley to the high point on Lake View. The Hoyt Lot was surrounded on two sides by large family lots: the Colvin Lot to the north and the Childs Lot to the west.

Hiram Hoyt purchased lots 1-6 on April 12, 1860 for \$144.72. The total size of the combined lots was 1,206 square feet. The price of the land was twelve cents per square foot which classified the lot as second class according to the Trustee's 1859 classification system.



Location of Hoyt Lot

■ Privately owned lots being studied  
■ Hoyt Lot



Hoyt Lot

Figure 5.18

Location of the Hoyt Lot

a. Location of Hoyt Lot in cemetery (Map from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).

b. Location in section (Map from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin, Jr., circa 1898).

## HISTORY

Several historic photographs document the Hoyt Lot. The earliest photograph, circa 1860s, is titled "Rear of Hoyt Lot". There were no monuments or gravemarkers visible on the lot, and thus the photograph was taken soon after the lot was purchased and improved in 1860. The circa 1875 photograph illustrates changes in the vegetation and circulation of the Hoyt Lot.

### Topography

The topography of the Hoyt Lot was gently rounded. The Hoyt Lot was located at a higher elevation than Central Avenue which surrounded it. The surrounding topography sloped gently to the west to Dedication Valley (see figures 5.19 and 5.20).

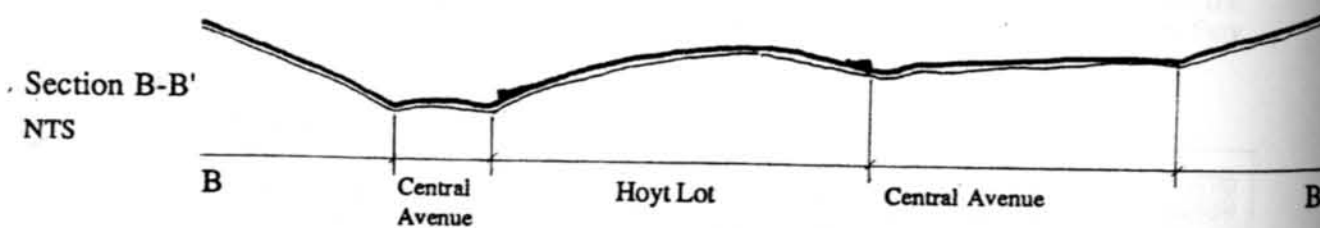


Figure 5.19 Section through Hoyt Lot (Day, 1993).

### Buildings and Structures

No buildings or structures were ever located on the lot.

### Vegetation

The vegetation in the Hoyt Lot consisted of planted trees and shrubs. The circa 1860 photograph illustrates several deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs (see figure 5.20 and 5.21). The photograph illustrates several shrubs located on the north and south side of the entrance to the lot and one narrow, tall, shrub planted in center of the entrance. Two urn planters are illustrated on pedestals on either side of the entrance. The slopes of the lot were clipped grass.

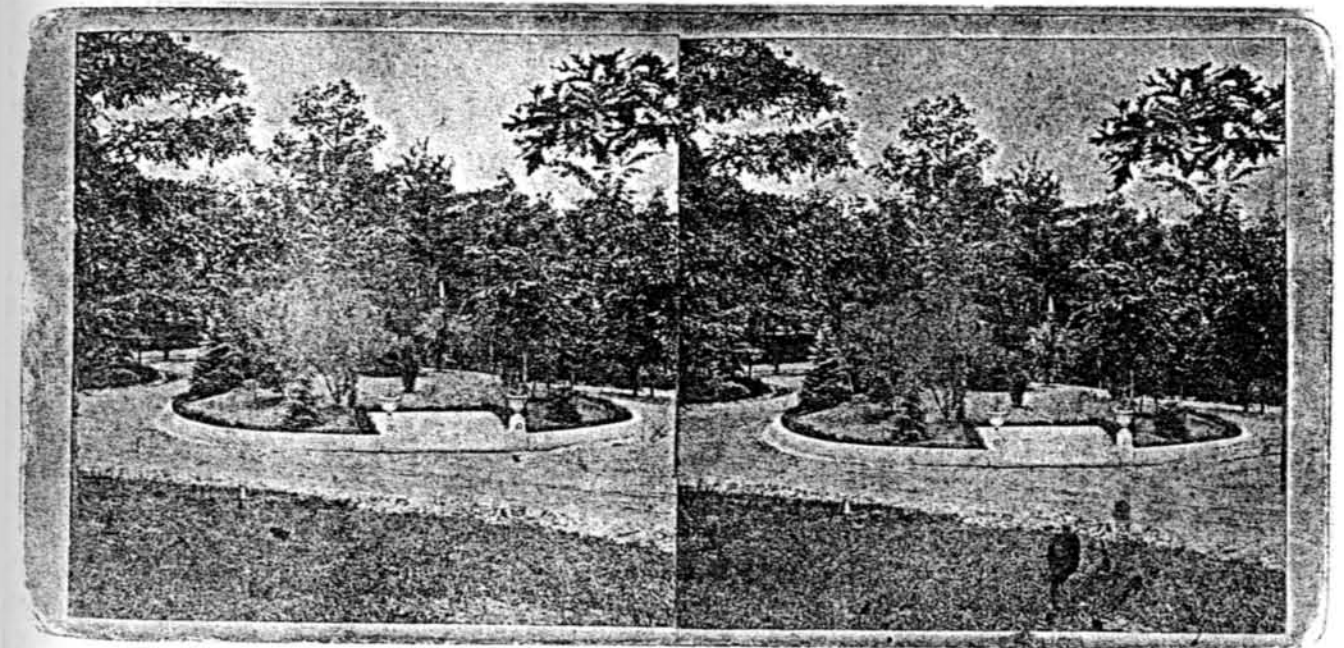


Figure 5.20 "Rear of Hoyt Lot", circa 1860 (Onondaga Historical Association).



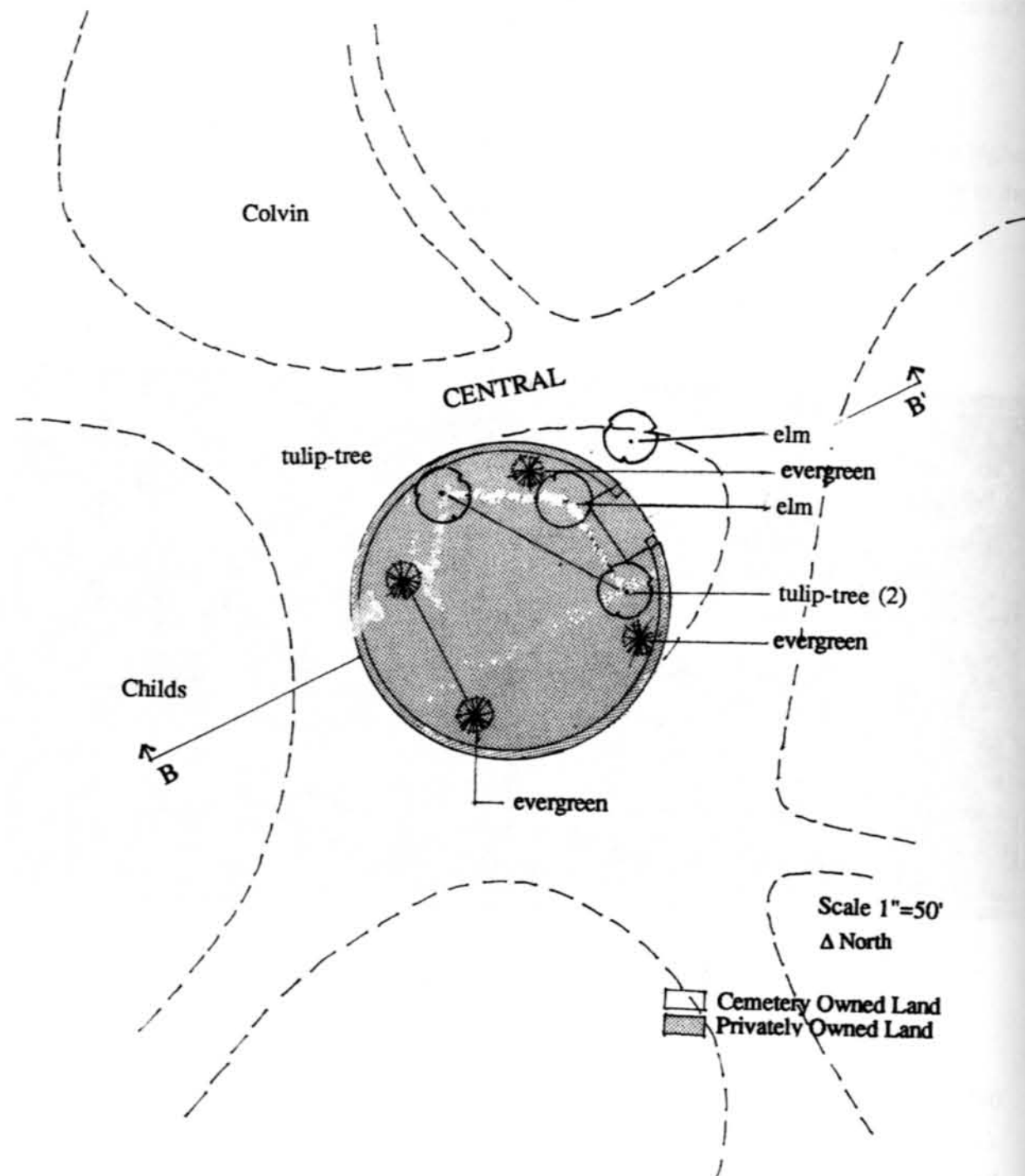


Figure 5.21 Plan of Hoyt Lot, circa 1860s (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

The circa 1875 photograph illustrates a change in the vegetation located on the lot. The circa 1875 photograph illustrates two deciduous trees on the north and south side of the entrance to the lot (see figure 5.22). The tree on the north side of the walk is an elm (*Ulmus sp.*) and the tree on the south side of the walk is a tulip-tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) (Judging by the size of the trees in circa 1875 one would expect them to be visible in the 1860 photograph. However, the quality and orientation of the photograph make this confirmation impossible.)<sup>132</sup> Two evergreens were located at the far corners of the circular lot; these were presumably the two that were planted in the 1860s and documented in the circa 1860s photograph (see figures 5.22 and 5.23). One major deciduous tree situated in the intersection of the road is an elm. The slopes of the lot were clipped grass.

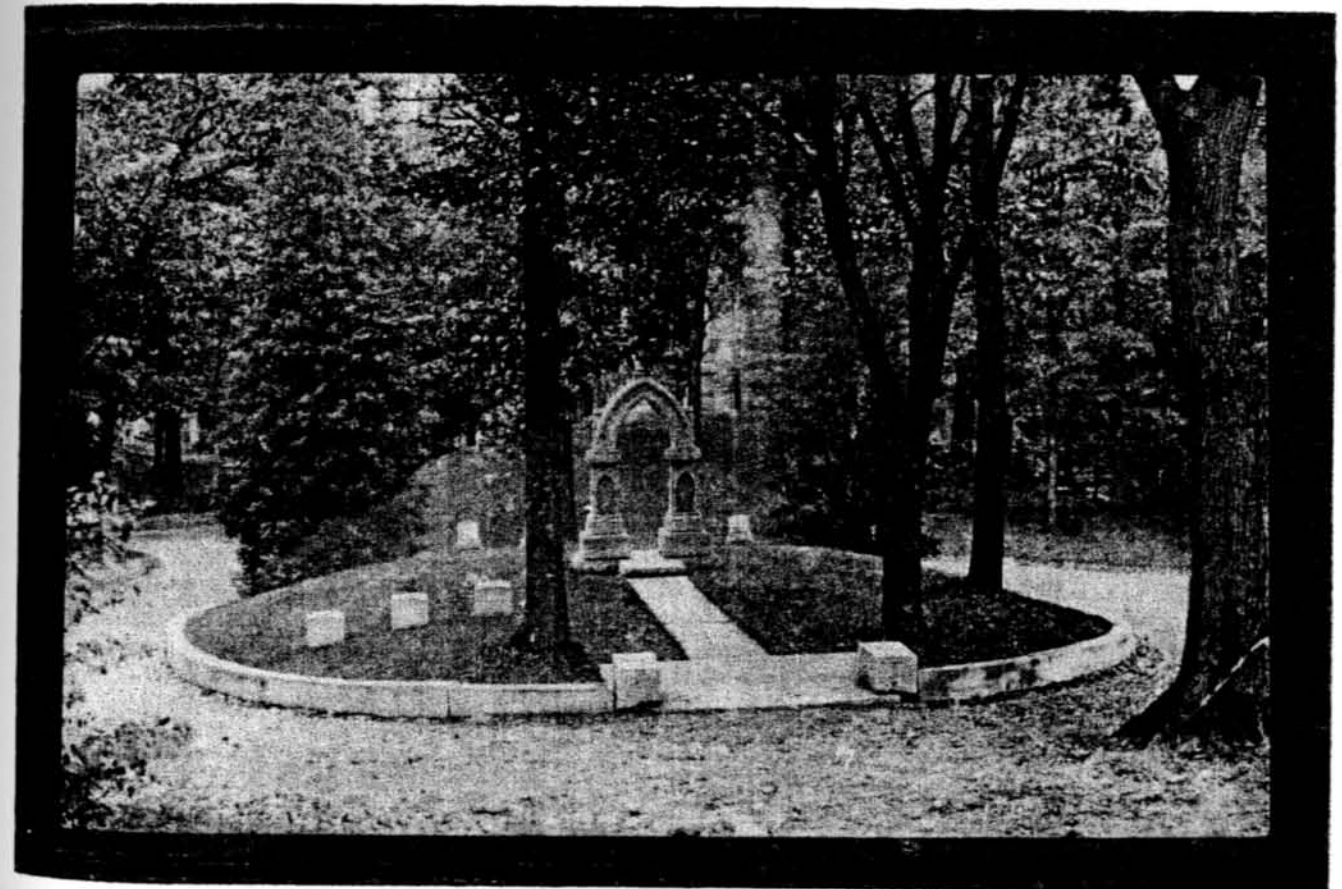


Figure 5.22 View of Hoyt Lot from east, circa 1875 (Oakwood Cemetery Association).

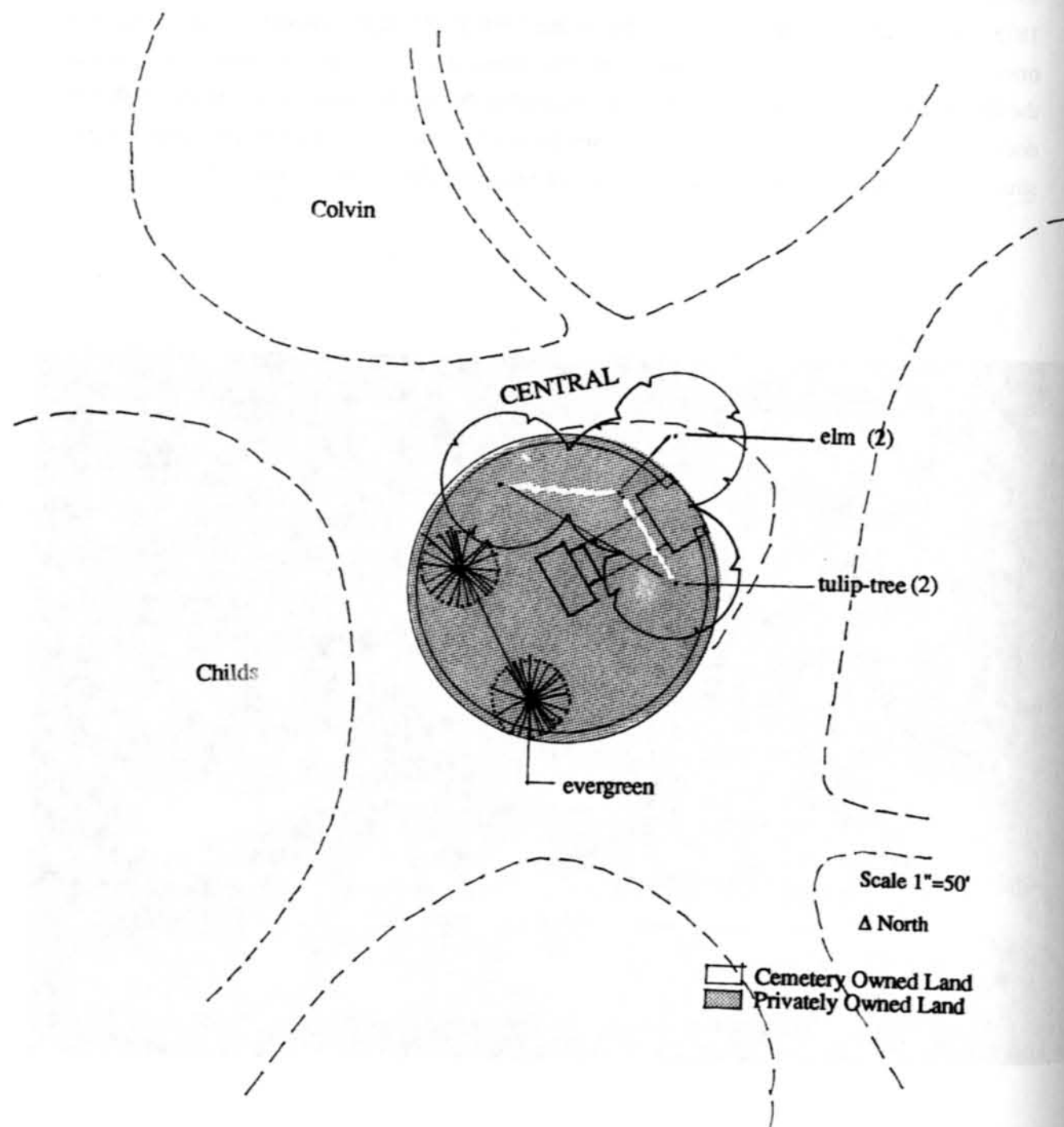


Figure 5.23 Plan of Hoyt Lot, circa 1875 (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Hoyt Lot was organized by the circulation, topography and vegetation (see figure 5.24). The Hoyt Lot was located at the center of Central Avenue. The boundaries of the circular lot and the avenue were clearly defined. Low stone coping located around the perimeter of the lot and cobblestone gutters also located around the lot articulated the separation of the privately owned lot and Central Avenue. The topography of lot also emphasized its separation from the avenue. The lot was a rounded hill that had a higher elevation than the surrounding roads. The vegetation provided a sense of enclosure on the lot.

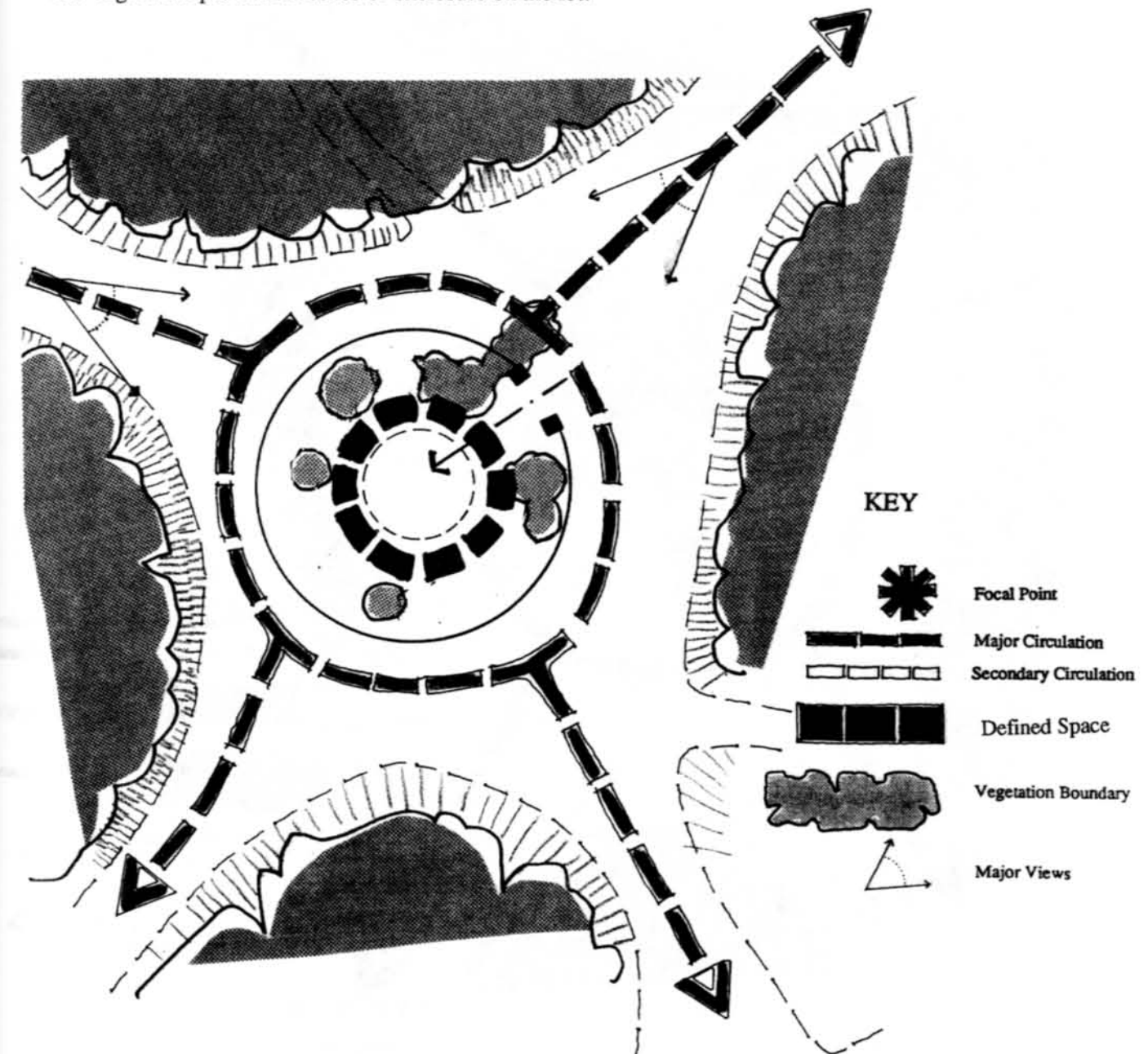


Figure 5.24 Spatial Organization Diagram of Hoyt Lot, circa 1860s (Day, 1993).



The spatial organization changed in 1875 (see figure 5.25). The vegetation and the gothic arch were the major spatial organizers of the lot. The straight trunks of the elm and tulip-tree trees on the north and south side of the entrance provided vertical elements that framed the monument. The evergreens located on the west side of the lot also framed the monument; their width and shape provided an added sense of enclosure. The canopy of the deciduous trees created an overhead plane.

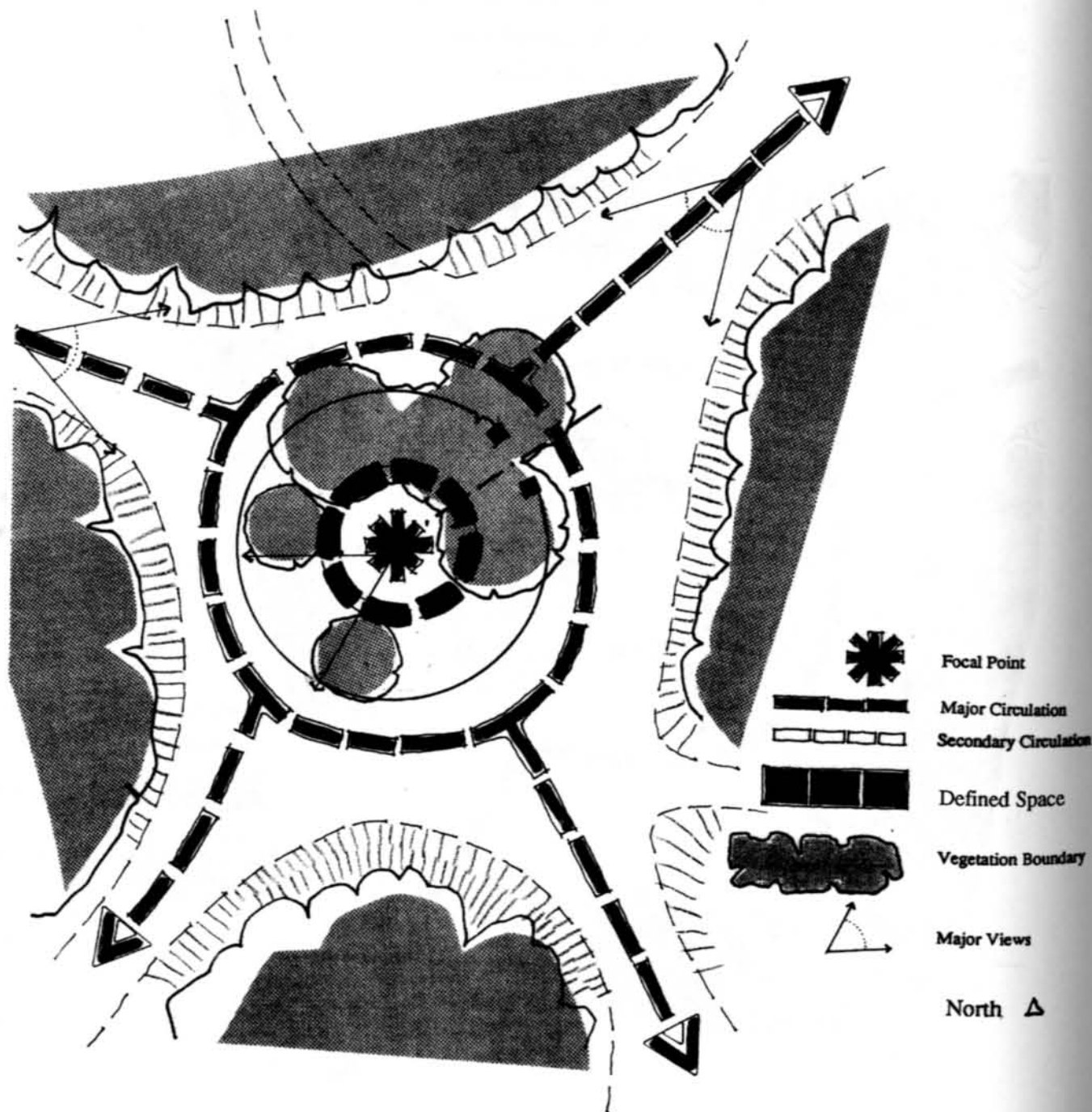


Figure 5.25 Spatial Organization Diagram of Hoyt Lot, circa 1875 (Day, 1993).

### Views and Vistas

Views and vistas from the Hoyt Lot were open along Central Avenue to the north and south. Early photographs illustrate woodlands that surrounded the lot. The elevated lot, with its distinct boundaries marked with low stone coping was a focal point of views from Central Avenue (see figure 5.24).

Views and vistas in circa 1875 remained the same. The growth of the evergreens blocked views at certain points along the four approaches. The orientation of the gothic arch provided a viewing spot from the center of the lot. Views from this point were framed by the elm and tulip-tree and the two evergreens located on the west side of the lot (see figure 5.25).

### Circulation

The circulation of the Hoyt Lot organized the lot; the system of roads, stone posts, urns, ramp, and stone entrance path articulated a front and back to the lot. In 1860 the entrance to the lot was articulated by stone posts, urns, and a stone entrance ramp.

The circa 1875 photograph illustrates the addition of a stone walkway that further articulated the front and back of the lot. The single stone path led the visitor to the gothic arch in the center of the lot. The Hoyt Lot was accessed by Central Avenue. Central approached from the south, circled around the Hoyt Lot, and proceeded south. Edgewood approached from the east, continued north around the Colvin Lot, and then continued west toward Dedication Valley.

### Furnishings and Objects

Furnishings and objects on the Hoyt Lot were selected by the family. Lot furnishings such as urn planters were aesthetic features of the lot. Monuments and gravemarkers also were selected by the lot owner.

**Gothic Arch:** The major monument, a gothic arch, was located at the high point of the Hoyt Lot. The arch is illustrated in the circa 1875 photograph of the lot.

**Urn:** The urn planters were located at the north and south sides of the entrance ramp. The urn planters were illustrated in the circa 1860s photograph. The planters were made of stone, and were approximately two feet tall. They were located on stone pedestals.

In circa 1875 the urn planters were removed from their original location. One of the urns is illustrated in the circa 1875 photograph west of the arch.

**Gravemarkers:** Six gravemarkers were located on the lot. The gravemarkers are illustrated in the circa 1875 photograph. The gravemarkers were square, stone, markers, approximately eighteen inches tall. They were organized in straight rows perpendicular to the path (see figure 5.22).

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

The historic character of the Hoyt Lot has been altered significantly. The topography exists in its original location. The form and character of the existing vegetation, circulation, and gravemarkers have changed over time. The existing condition of the Gere Lot was recorded. Field work verified the location of roadways, trees, and other site features. Photographs, field notes, and observation were used for recording plan materials, circulation systems, and existing features. Due to the fact that there was no base map or topographic map, recording existing conditions was difficult. Locations of features such as trees and roads were determined by the aerial photograph taken in 1992 and verified by field work.

### Topography

The topography of the Gere Lot exists in its original location.

### Buildings and Structures

No buildings or structures were ever located on the Hoyt lot.

### Vegetation

The vegetation in the Hoyt Lot consists of three trees, one of which exists from the historic period (see figure 5.27). Two young honeylocust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) are located on the south and north side of the entrance (see figure 5.26 and 5.27). The honeylocust located south of the path is relatively young. The honeylocust to the north of the path is dead. One large tulip-tree is located on the perimeter of the lot (see figure 5.28). The tulip-tree is the only tree that exists from the historic period. It was documented in the circa 1875 photograph (see figure 5.22). The slopes of the lot are clipped grass.

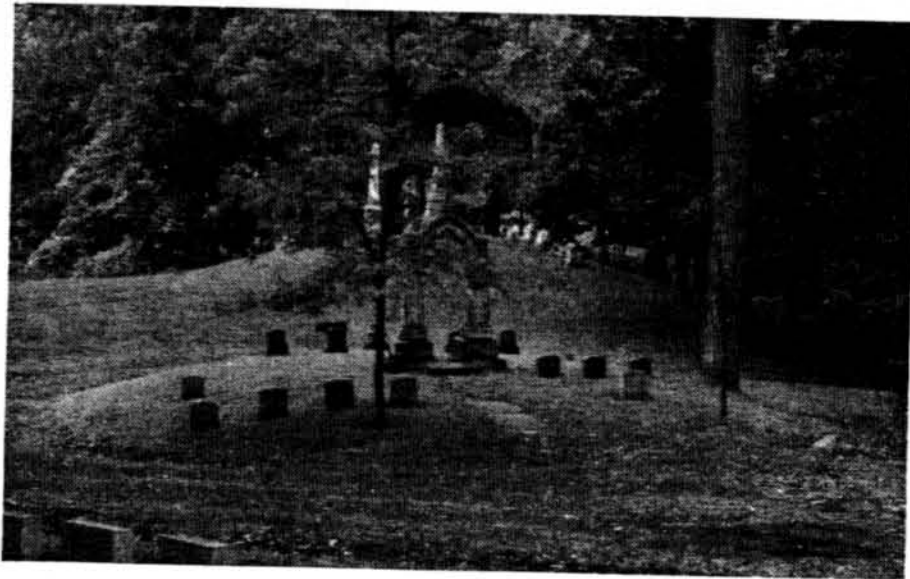


Figure 5.26 View of Hoyt Lot (Day, 1993).

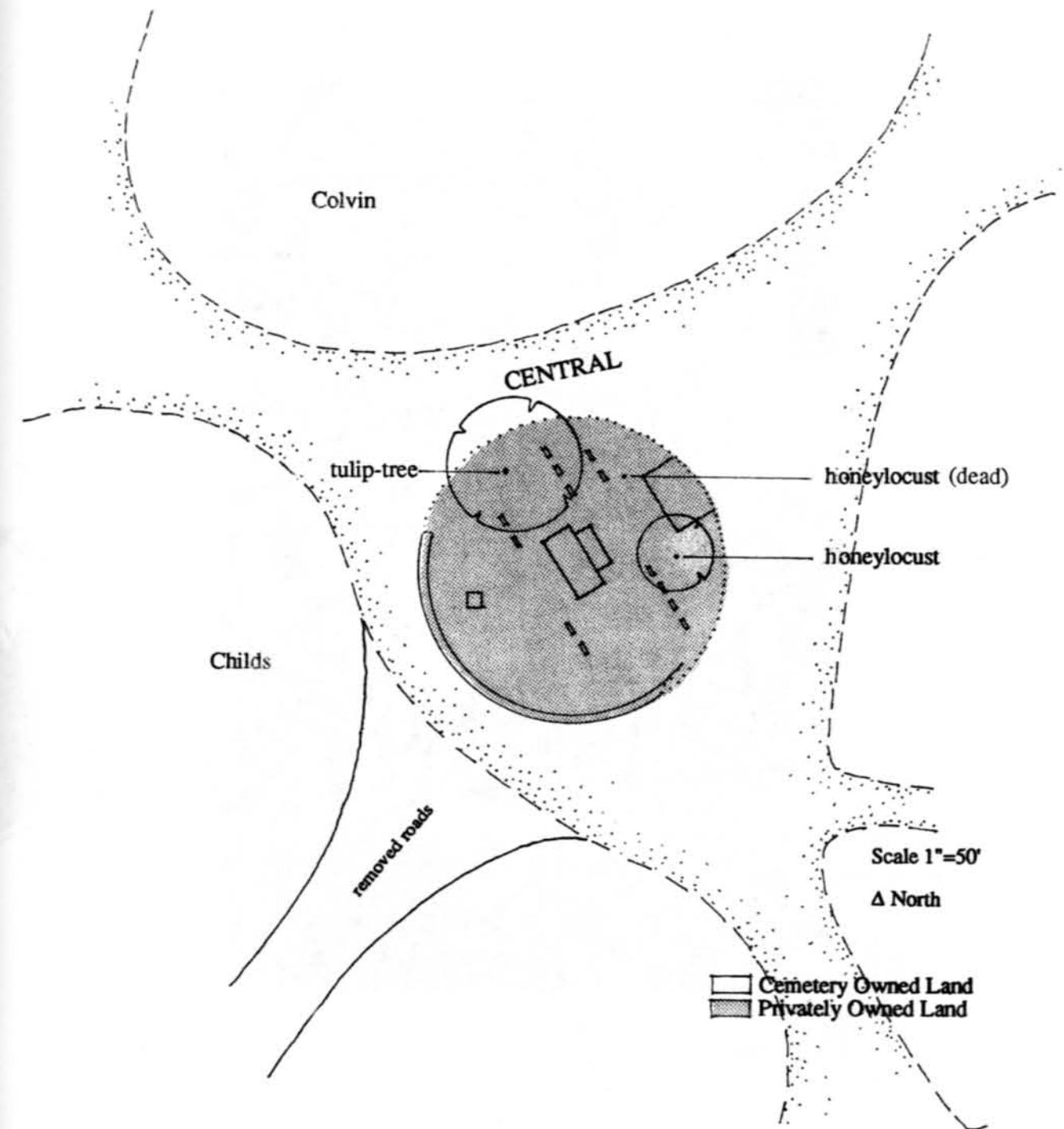


Figure 5.27 Existing Conditions Plan of Hoyt Lot (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



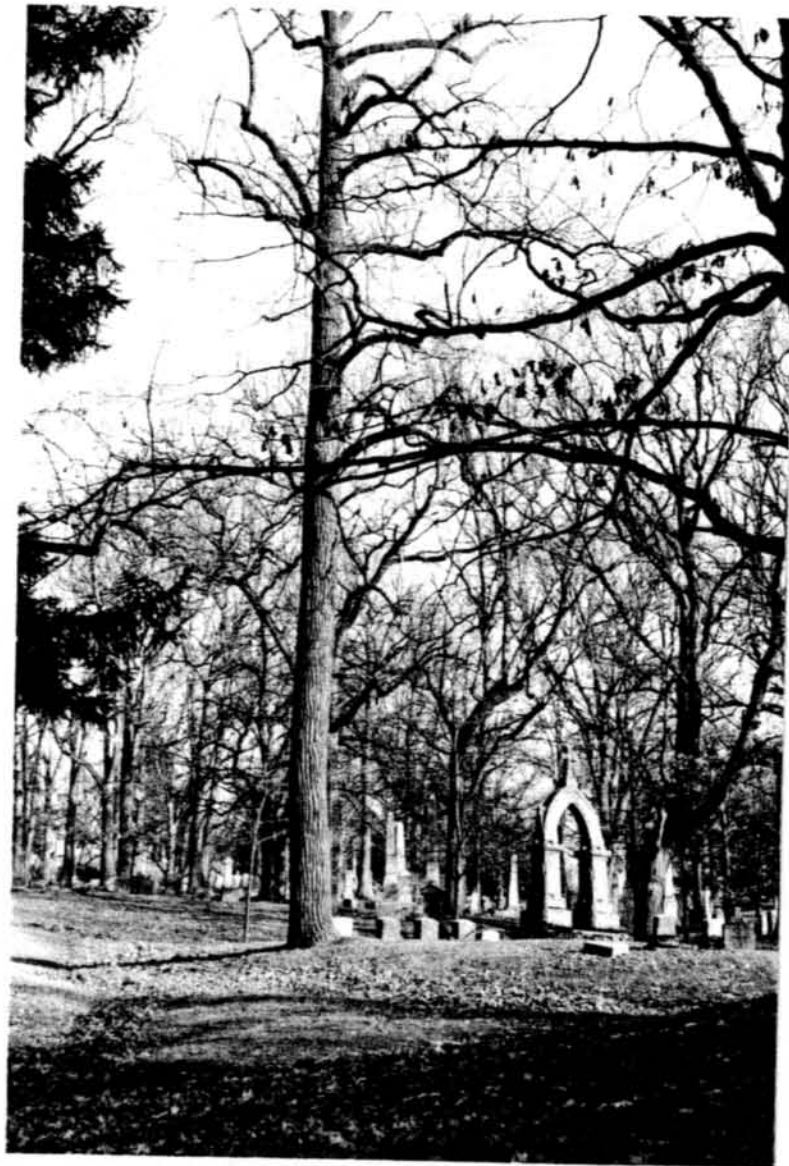


Figure 5.28 View of tulip-tree on Hoyt Lot (Day, 1993).

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Hoyt Lot is defined by the topography, monument, the tulip-tree to the north, and the young honeylocusts (one living and one dead). The living honeylocust does not provide a substantial overhead canopy. The small canopy of the tulip-tree is approximately seventy feet high and thus results in a lack of enclosure (see figure 5.29).

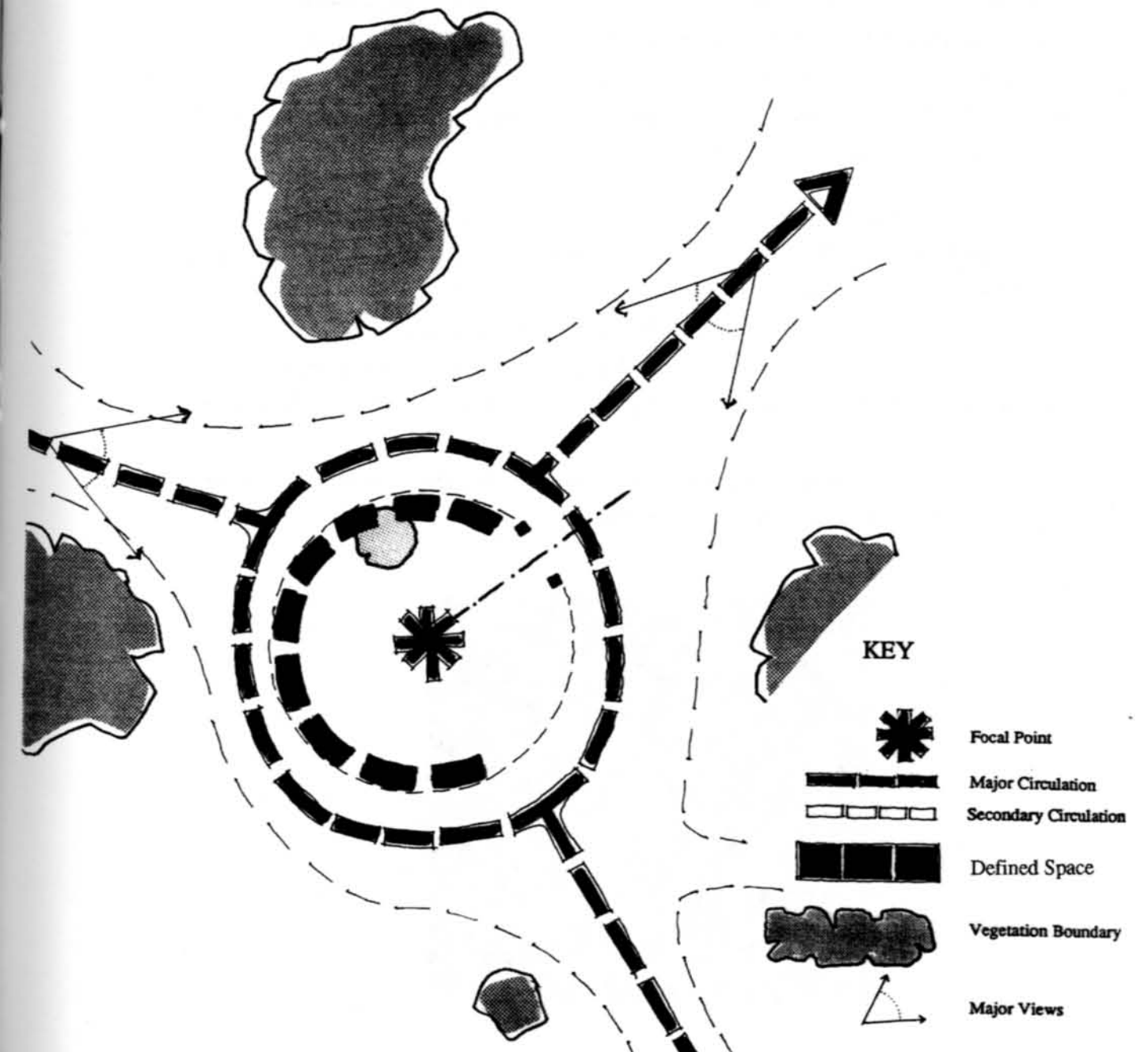


Figure 5.29 Spatial Organization Diagram 1993 (Day, 1993).

### Views and Vistas

Views from the Hoyt Lot are open in all directions. The arch monument provides a viewing point, and views are open along Central Avenue and in all directions (see figure 5.29).

### Circulation

The circulation of the Hoyt Lot is an organizing element in the lot. The entrance to the lot and the stone path are partially visible. They are covered with soil, stones, leaves and debris that have collected from runoff from Central Avenue. Field survey verifies that the walkway exists in the same location as the circa 1875 photograph. The delineation between the roadway and the east boundary of the lot is not clear because the stone coping has been covered by runoff material. The coping on the west boundary exists (see figure 5.26).

### Furnishings and Objects

Furnishings and objects from the historic period on the Hoyt Lot consist of the gothic arch, one remnant of an urn, and gravemarkers.

**Gothic Arch:** The gothic arch, located at the high point of the Hoyt Lot, exists in its original location.

**Urns:** The urn planters, located on the north and south sides of the entrance ramp, no longer exist. A pedestal, assumed to be a remnant of an urn planter, is located to the west of the monument (see figure 5.30).

**Gravemarkers:** The gravemarkers documented in the circa 1875 photograph exist in their original location. New gravemarkers have been added to the lot.



Figure 5.30 Urn pedestal on Hoyt Lot (Day, 1993).

### ANALYSIS

The analysis of the Hoyt Lot presents a comparison of the landscape features during the historic period to the existing condition of the lot. A comparison of the historic documentation to the existing conditions of the privately owned lot determines which site features contribute to the lot's integrity. A determination was then made regarding the contribution of the existing individual feature to the significance of the privately owned lot.

#### Topography

**Historic Condition:** The topography of the Hoyt Lot was gently rounded. The Hoyt Lot was located at a higher elevation than Central Avenue which surrounded it. The surrounding topography sloped gently to the west to Dedication Valley.

**Existing Condition:** The topography of the Hoyt Lot exists in its original location.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The landform of the Hoyt Lot has retained its historic location. The form, height, and slope of the rounded hill is very similar to the characteristics illustrated in the historic photographs and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

#### Buildings and Structures

No buildings or structures were ever located on the lot.

#### Vegetation

**Historic Condition:** The vegetation in the Hoyt Lot consisted of planted trees and shrubs. The circa 1860 photograph illustrates several deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs. The photograph illustrates several shrubs located on the north and south side of the entrance to the lot.

**Existing Condition:** The vegetation in the Hoyt Lot consists of three trees, one of which exists from the historic period. Two young honeylocust are located on the south and north side of the entrance. The honeylocust located south of the path is relatively young. The honeylocust to the north of the path is dead. One large tulip-tree is located on the perimeter of the lot. The tulip-tree is the only tree that exists from the historic period. The slopes of the lot are clipped grass.

**Analysis:**

**Composition:** Non-existing

**Individual trees:** Existing, Contributing

The tulip-tree, the only historic tree on the lot is in good condition. One honeylocust is in good condition, and one is dead. These are not historic trees, and therefore are not contributing features. The tulip-tree exists from the historic period and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

#### Spatial Organization

**Historic Condition:** The spatial organization of the Hoyt Lot was organized by the circulation, topography and vegetation. The Hoyt Lot was located at the center of Central Avenue. The boundaries of the circular lot and the avenue were clearly defined. Low stone coping located around the perimeter of the lot and cobblestone gutters also located around the lot articulated the separation of the privately owned lot and Central Avenue. The topography of lot also emphasized its separation from the avenue. The lot was a rounded hill that had a



higher elevation than the surrounding roads. The vegetation provided a sense of enclosure on the lot.

The spatial organization changed in 1875. The vegetation and the gothic arch were the major spatial organizers of the lot. The straight trunks of the elm and tulip-tree trees on the north and south side of the entrance provided vertical elements that framed the monument. The evergreens located on the west side of the lot also framed the monument; their width and shape provided an added sense of enclosure. The high canopy of the deciduous trees created an overhead plane.

**Existing Condition:** The spatial organization of the Hoyt Lot is defined by the topography, monument, the tulip-tree to the north, and the two young honeylocusts (one living and one dead). The living honeylocust does not provide a substantial overhead canopy. The small canopy of the tulip-tree is approximately seventy feet high and thus results in a lack of enclosure.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

### Views and Vistas

**Historic Condition:** Views and vistas from the Hoyt Lot were open along Central Avenue to the north and south. Early photographs illustrate woodlands that surrounded the lot. The elevated lot, with its distinct boundaries marked with low stone coping was a focal point of views from Central Avenue.

Views and vistas in circa 1875 remained the same. The growth of the evergreens blocked views at certain points along the four approaches. The orientation of the gothic arch provided a viewing spot from the center of the lot. Views from this point were framed by the elm and tulip-tree and the two evergreens located on the west side of the lot.

**Existing Condition:** Views from the Hoyt Lot are open in all directions. The arch monument provides a viewing point, and views are open along Central Avenue and in all directions.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The views from and to the lot are relatively unchanged. The main view to the Hoyt Lot from the east and the west is intact and reflect the historic character of the lot and therefore, they are contributing features.

### Circulation

**Historic Condition:** The circulation of the Hoyt Lot organized the lot; the circulation system of roads, stone posts, ramp, and stone entrance path articulated a front and back to the lot. In 1860 the entrance to the lot was articulated by stone posts, urns, and a stone entrance ramp.

The circa 1875 photograph illustrates the addition of a stone path that further articulated the front and back of the lot. The single stone path led the visitor to the gothic arch in the center of the lot.

The Hoyt Lot was accessed by Central Avenue. Central approached from the south, circled around the Hoyt Lot, and proceeded south. Edgewood approached from the east, continued north around the Colvin Lot, and then continued west toward Dedication Valley.

**Existing Condition:** The circulation of the Hoyt Lot is an organizing element in the lot. The entrance to the lot and the stone walkway are partially visible. They are covered with soil, stones, leaves and debris that have collected from runoff from Edgewood Avenue. Field survey verifies that the walkway exists in the same location as the circa 1875 photograph. The delineation between the roadway and the east boundary of the lot is not clear because the stone coping has been covered by runoff material. The coping on the west boundary exists.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The path, located in its original location, is in good condition. Although it has been partially covered by accumulated debris, field tests and analysis confirm that the entire path exists. The stone coping surrounding the lot does not contain the lot, or separate it from the surrounding roadways as it should. Field test and analysis confirm that the stone coping exists. The delineation between the roadway and the east boundary of the lot is not clear because the stone coping has been covered by runoff material. The circulation system reflects the historic character of the lot and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

### Furnishings and Objects

#### Gothic Arch:

**Historic Condition:** The major monument, a gothic arch, was located at the high point of the Hoyt Lot. The arch is illustrated in the circa 1875 photograph of the lot.

**Existing Condition:** The gothic arch, located at the high point of the Hoyt Lot, exists in its original location.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The condition of the gothic arch has not been assessed for this report. The arch exists in its original location and reflects the lot's historic character and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

#### Urn:

**Historic Condition:** The urn planters were located at the north and south sides of the entrance. The urn planters were illustrated in the circa 1860s photograph. The planters were made of stone, and were approximately two feet tall. They were located on stone pedestals.

In circa 1875 the urn planters were removed from their original location. One of the urns is illustrated in the circa 1875 photograph west of the arch.

**Existing Condition:** The urn planters, located on the north and south sides of the entrance ramp, no longer exist. A pedestal, assumed to be a remnant of an urn planter, is located to the west of the monument.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

#### Gravemarkers:

**Historic Condition:** Six gravemarkers were located on the lot. The gravemarkers are illustrated in the circa 1875 photograph. The gravemarkers were square, stone markers, approximately eighteen inches tall. They were organized in straight rows perpendicular to the path.

**Existing Condition:** The gravemarkers documented in the circa 1875 photograph exist in their original location. New gravemarkers have been added to the lot.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The condition of the gravemarkers was not assessed for this report. New gravemarkers have been added to lot. The gravemarkers reflect the historic character of the lot and therefore, they are contributing features.

## THE LEAVENWORTH LOT

Elias Leavenworth was founder and one of the original twelve Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, and served as the President for twelve years. He was a prominent citizen of Syracuse who was involved in many civic projects. In 1861, he served on the State Board of Regents and in 1874, in the U. S. Congress.

The Leavenworth Lot was located in Section thirteen between Maple and White Oak Avenues. These two avenues began at Dedication Valley (see figure 5.31) and enclosed the elongated ridge. The Leavenworth Lot occupied the eastern end of the section. The lot was a semi-circle with its center at the high point of the hill. The land sloped steeply away from the center of the semi-circle to the east. The lots surrounding the Leavenworth Lot were also major family lots; Leavenworth shared Section thirteen with the Crouse lot to the west and the White Lot was located on an adjacent section to the north.

Elias Leavenworth purchased lots one through thirteen on August 24, 1860 for \$322.44. The total size of the combined lots was 2687 square feet. The price of the land was twelve cents per square foot which classified the lot as second class according to the Trustee's 1859 classification system.

## HISTORY

There is very little historic documentation available for the Leavenworth Lot. There are no historic photographs of the lot; the information for this section was a culmination of existing conditions documentation, records from Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries, and one period engraving illustrating the east of the lot. Despite the lack of information, the Leavenworth Lot was selected for investigation because of Leavenworth's integral role in establishing the cemetery. It also provides an opportunity to present a section of the cemetery landscape that had little record of its historic condition.

## Topography

The topography of the Leavenworth Lot was an organizing element in the layout of the lot. The Leavenworth Lot, like the Gere Lot, was located on one of the elongated landforms that characterized the central core of the cemetery. The lot was located at the high point of Section thirteen that sloped down on three sides, to the north, east and south. The two major avenues that defined the lot, Maple and White Oak Avenues were ravines that passed through the elongated formations (see figure 5.32). The center of the lot was gently leveled to provide a setting for the monument arrangement (see figure 5.33).

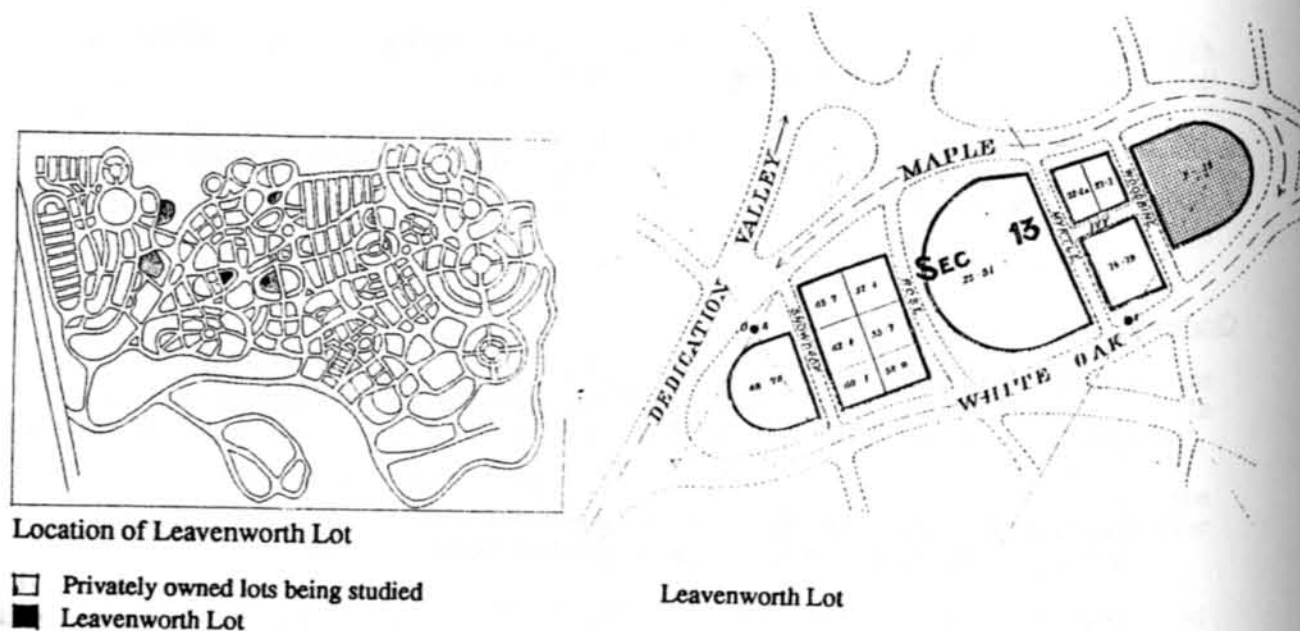


Figure 5.31 Location of the Leavenworth Lot  
 a. Location of Gere Lot in cemetery (Map traced from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).  
 b. Location in section (Map from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by Rhessa Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

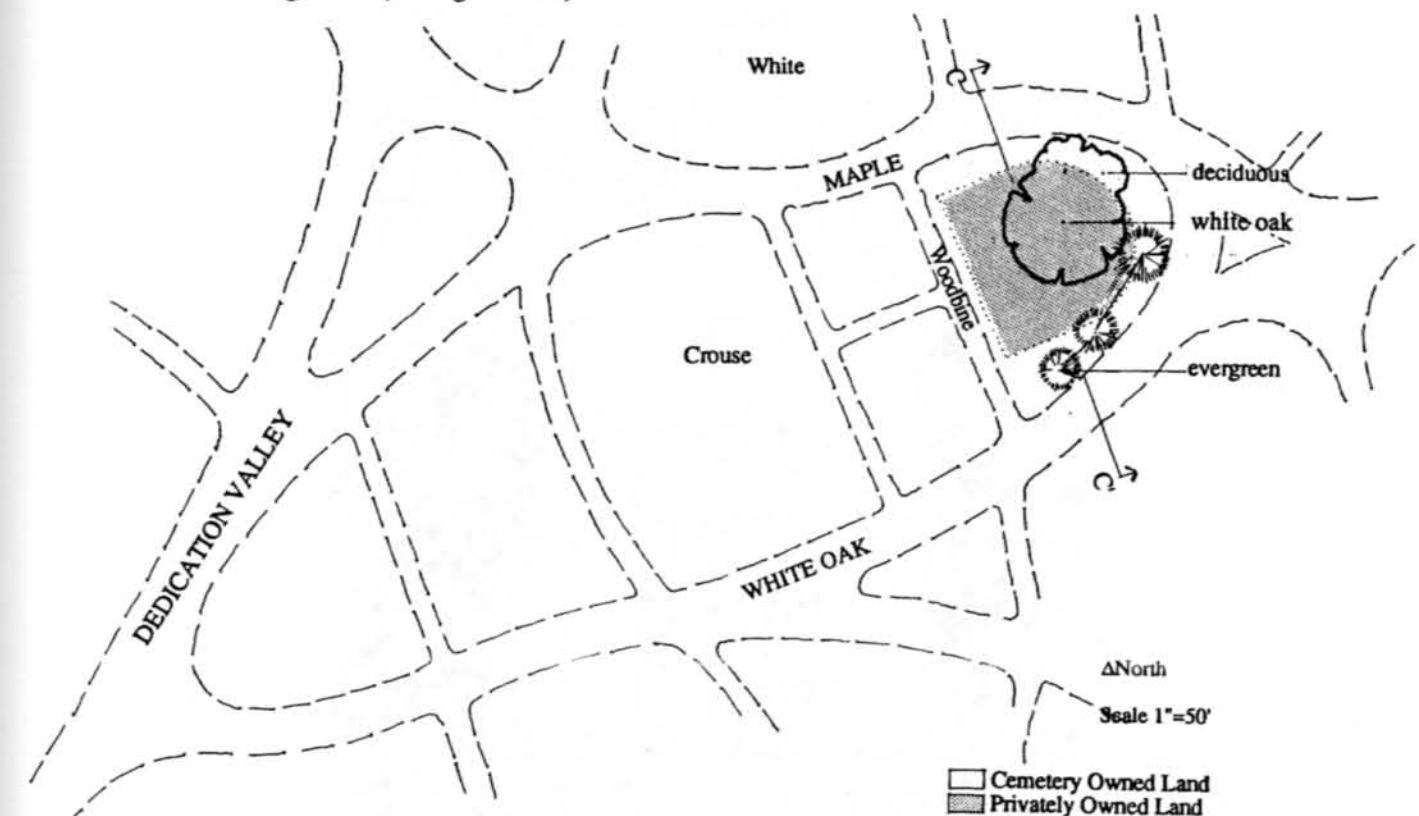


Figure 5.32 Plan of Leavenworth Lot (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



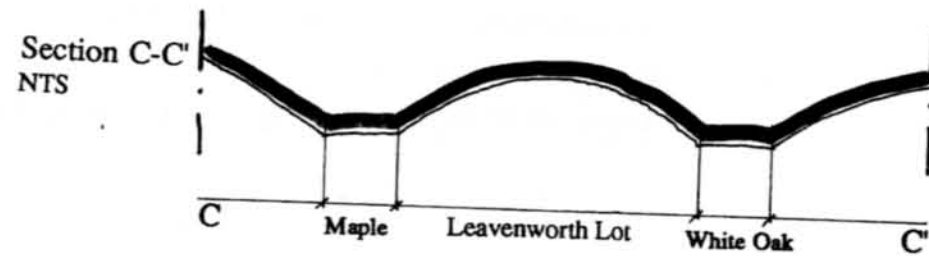


Figure 5.33 Section through Leavenworth Lot (Day, 1993).

### Buildings and Structures

The structure on the Leavenworth Lot consisted of the Leavenworth Tomb, constructed circa 1885. The structure was a Gothic tomb which enclosed a sarcophagus monument. Paired gothic arches were located on each of the four sides of the tomb (see figure 5.34).<sup>133</sup>



Figure 5.34 View of Leavenworth Tomb (Day, 1993).

### Vegetation

The vegetation in the Leavenworth Lot consisted of planted trees and shrubs. The circa 1871 engraving illustrates three evergreen trees and three deciduous trees (see figure 5.35 and 5.32). The tree located at the center of the lot was distinctive because of the crook in the branch. A period description described this tree: "... the chief ornament ... is an old forest monarch, a great limb of which sticks straight out from the trunk, a few feet from the ground, and then turns straight upward, thus forming an enviable rustic seat," and further stated, "... this quite remarkable tree gives the name to White Oak Avenue, and the red-bud maple upon the same lot, that of Maple Avenue."<sup>134</sup> The slope leading to the tomb was clipped grass.



Figure 5.35 Engraving of Leavenworth Lot, circa 1870s (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Company, 1871)).

Records at Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries document that Elias Leavenworth ordered plant materials from the nursery. Elias Leavenworth was interested in horticulture and advocated planting trees throughout the city of Syracuse. His James Street home built in 1842 contained extensive gardens, and it is probable that he also improved his lot in Oakwood with the same care and taste. The ledger books of the Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries record the following purchases:

1859	April 21, 1859	\$ 2.50	1866	April 24, 1866	\$ 11.35
1860	February 22, 1860	\$ .50		May 10, 1866	\$ 10.25
	April 15, 1860	\$ 5.89		July 5, 1866	\$ 4.00
1861	May 1, 1861	\$ 3.00		Nov. 12, 1866	\$ 6.50
1864	May 9, 1864	\$ 19.25	1867	May 11, 1867	\$ 9.00
	May 11, 1864	\$ 4.50	1868	April 4, 1868	\$ 3.80
	May 17, 1864	\$ 2.38		May 4, 1868	\$ 1.85
			1869	April 16, 1869	\$ 4.80 <sup>135</sup>

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Leavenworth Lot was dominated by the landform and vegetation of the site (see figure 5.36). The large tree illustrated in the engraving provided a dense overhead canopy, and the evergreens provided a border around the perimeter of the lot. Maple and White Oak Avenues provided the boundaries for the lot on the east, north and south and the secondary path, Woodbine, provided the western boundary.

### Views and Vistas

The views and vistas from the Leavenworth Lot were not extensive from this lot because of the dense vegetation. Views were contained to the adjacent lots and to the road intersection of Maple and White Oak (see figure 5.36).

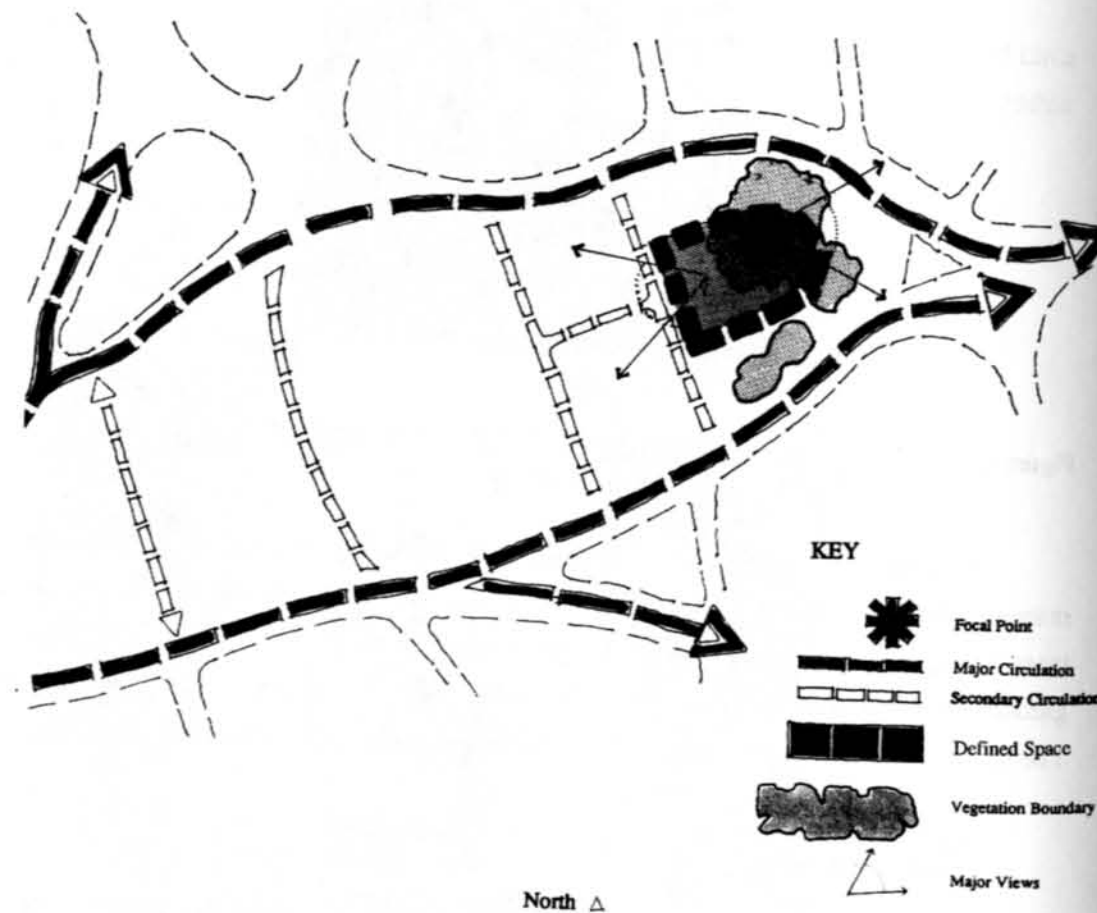


Figure 5.36 Spatial Organization of Leavenworth Lot, 1993 (Day, 1993).

### Circulation

The circulation of the Leavenworth Lot was organized by the topography and avenues. Woodbine, the path that was located at the west end of the lot separated the Leavenworth Lot from the west portion of Section thirteen. The material finish was not documented. This was the path that carried the visitors in their horse drawn carriage to the lot.

The Leavenworth Lot was accessed by the main avenues Maple and White Oak. These main avenues led the visitor from Dedication Valley into the core of the cemetery; these routes also led the Leavenworths to their lot; Woodbine was accessible from each of these avenues. The material finish of the main avenues was compacted soil and gravel. The main avenues contained the cobble gutters that carried runoff from the surrounding lots.

### Furnishings and Objects

Furnishing and objects on the Leavenworth Lot consisted of one gravemarker illustrated in the engraving.

**Gravemarker:** The gravemarker was located at the high point of the lot. The gravemarker is illustrated in the circa 1870s engraving at the west end of the lot. The gravemarker had a carved cross on the top, was approximately twenty four inches tall and was made of stone.

### EXISTING CONDITIONS

The historic character of the Leavenworth Lot has not been altered significantly. The topography exists in its original location. The form and character of the existing vegetation, circulation, and gravemarkers have changed over time. The existing condition of the Leavenworth Lot was recorded. Field work verified the location of roadways, trees, and other site features. Photographs, field notes, and observation were used for recording plan materials, circulation systems, and existing features. Due to the fact that there was no base map or topographic map, recording existing conditions was difficult. Locations of features such as trees and roads were determined by the aerial photograph taken in 1992 and verified by field work.

### Topography

The topography of the Leavenworth Lot exists in its original location.

### Vegetation

The vegetation in the Leavenworth Lot consists of seven trees on the Leavenworth Lot (see figure 5.37 and 5.38). Existing vegetation located in the Leavenworth Lot consists of butternut hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), Norway spruce, white oak, eastern hemlock, and cucumber magnolia (3). The white oak and the cucumber magnolias exist from the historic period. The lot is surrounded by woodland areas. The slope leading to the tomb is clipped grass.





Figure 5.37 View of white oak with distinctive branching pattern 1993 (Day, 1993).

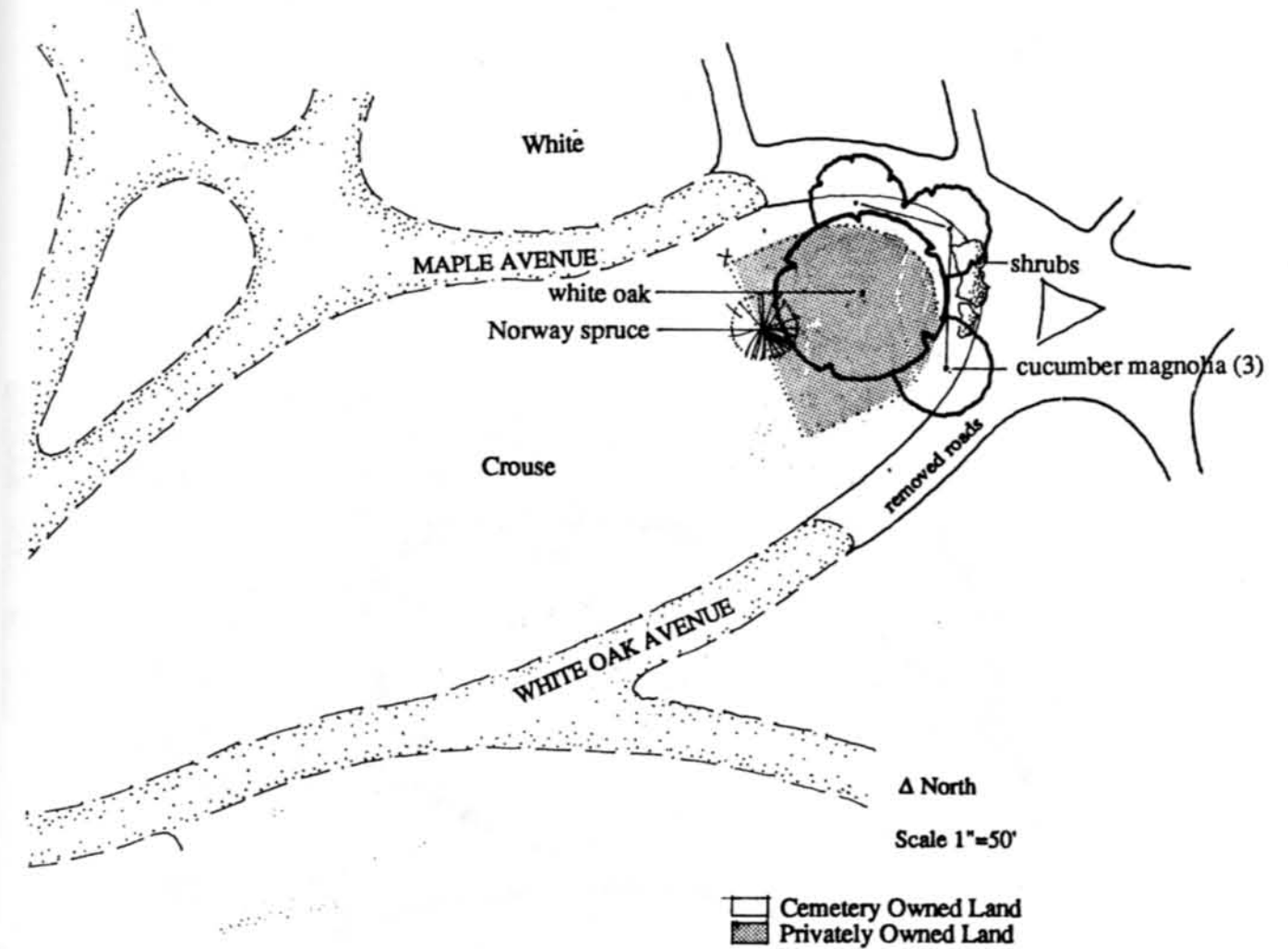


Figure 5.38 Existing Conditions Plan of Leavenworth Lot, 1993 (Day, 1993 from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Leavenworth Lot is defined by the topography and existing vegetation (see figure 5.39). The low branching of the white oak and the size of the three cucumber magnolias provide a dense overhead canopy and boundary to the Leavenworth Lot. The monument is partially hidden from the surrounding avenues

### Views and Vistas

Views and vistas from the lot to the surrounding cemetery are limited due to the dense overhead canopy of the white oak and cucumber magnolias. The trees also block views to the monument (see figure 5.39).

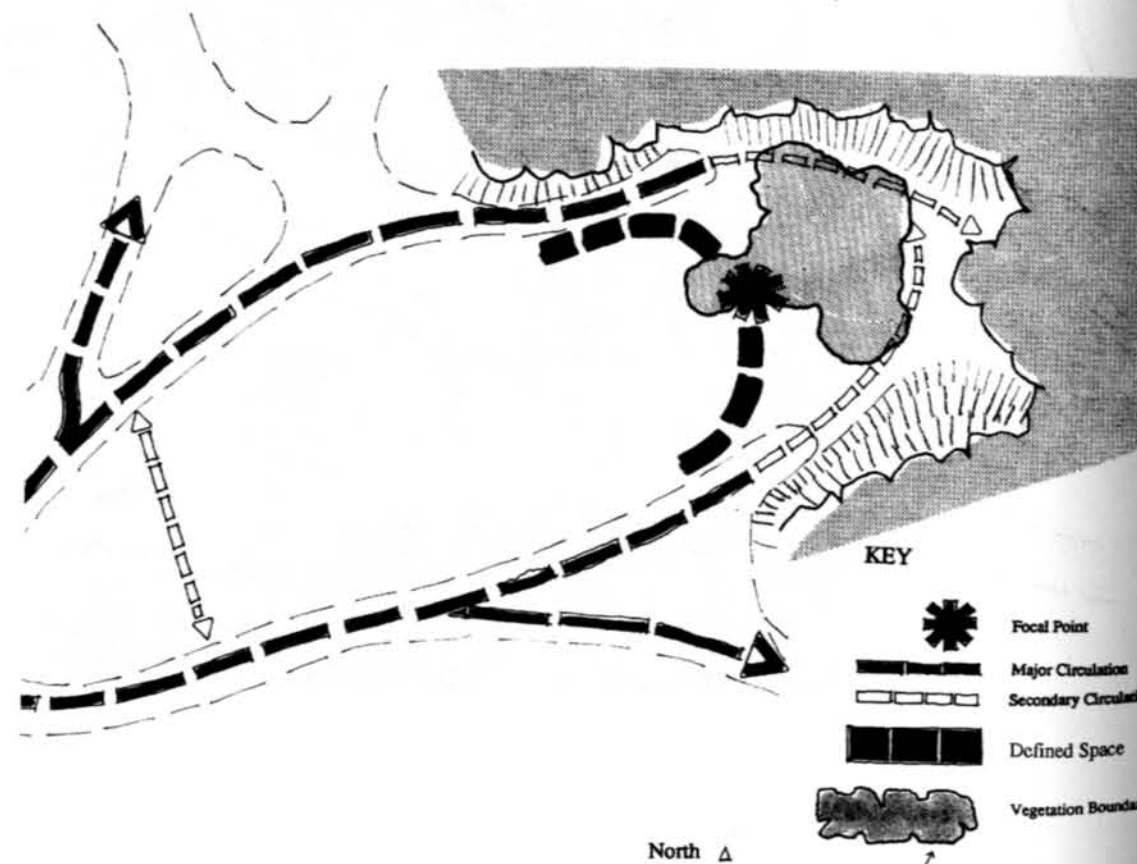


Figure 5.39 Spatial Organization Diagram of Leavenworth Lot, 1993 (Day, 1994).

### Circulation

The circulation of the Leavenworth Lot is organized by the topography and avenues. Woodbine, the path that was located at the west end of the lot, no longer exists.

The Leavenworth Lot is accessed by the main avenues Maple and White Oak. These main avenues no longer function as roads. The material finish is turf and therefore, there is no clear definition in material between the lot and the avenues. The location of the roads is still apparent in the landform. No cobblestone gutters exist on these avenues.

### Furnishings and Objects

The furnishings and objects of the Leavenworth Lot consist of the gravemarkers documented in the circa 1870s engraving and new gravemarkers.

**Gravemaker:** The gravemaker located at the high point of the lot, exists in its original location. The gravemaker is illustrated in the circa 1870s engraving at the west end of the lot. The gravemaker had a carved cross on the top and was made of stone. The new gravemarkers replicate the historic gravemaker. The gravemarkers are flush with the ground, and are made of stone.

### ANALYSIS

The analysis of the Leavenworth Lot presents a comparison of the landscape features during the historic period to the existing condition of the lot. A comparison of the historic documentation to the existing conditions of the privately owned lot determines which site features contribute to the lot's integrity. A determination was then made regarding the contribution of the existing individual feature to the significance of the privately owned lot.

### Topography

**Historic Condition:** The topography of the Leavenworth Lot was an organizing element in the layout of the lot. The Leavenworth Lot, like the Gere Lot, was located on one of the elongated landforms that characterized the central core of the cemetery. The lot was located at the high point of Section thirteen that sloped down on three sides, to the north, east and south. The two major avenues that defined the lot, Maple and White Oak Avenues were ravines that passed through the elongated formations. The center of the lot was gently leveled to provide a setting for the monument arrangement.

**Existing Condition:** The topography of the Leavenworth Lot exists in its original location.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The topography has not been altered. It retains its historic form and elevation and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

### Buildings and Structures

**Historic Condition:** The buildings and structures of the Leavenworth Lot consisted of the Leavenworth Tomb, constructed circa 1885. The structure was a Gothic tomb which



enclosed a sarcophagus monument. Paired gothic arches were located on each of the four sides of the tomb.

**Existing Condition:** The Leavenworth Tomb exists in its original location.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The condition of the Leavenworth monument was not assessed for this report. The tomb reflects the historic character of the lot and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

### Vegetation

**Historic Condition:** The vegetation in the Leavenworth Lot consisted of planted trees and shrubs. The circa 1871 engraving illustrates three evergreen trees and three deciduous trees. The tree located at the center of the lot was distinctive because of the crook in the branch. The slope leading to the tomb was clipped grass.

**Existing Condition:** The vegetation in the Leavenworth Lot consists of seven trees on the Leavenworth Lot. Existing vegetation located in the Leavenworth Lot consists of bitternut hickory, Norway spruce, white oak, eastern hemlock, and cucumber magnolia (3). The white oak and the cucumber magnolias exist from the historic period. The lot is surrounded by woodland areas. The slope leading to the tomb is clipped grass.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The existing vegetation is in good condition. The character of the vegetation in the Leavenworth Lot is much more dense than the historic period. The white oak and cucumber magnolias exist from the historic period and therefore, are contributing features.

### Spatial Organization

**Historic Condition:** The spatial organization of the Leavenworth Lot was dominated by the landform and vegetation of the site. The large tree illustrated in the engraving provided a dense overhead canopy, and the evergreens provided a border around the perimeter of the lot. Maple and White Oak Avenues provided the boundaries for the lot on the east, north and south and the secondary path Woodbine provided the western boundary.

**Existing Condition:** The spatial organization of the Leavenworth Lot is defined by the topography and existing vegetation. The low branching of the white oak and the size of the three cucumber magnolias provide a dense overhead canopy and boundary to the Leavenworth Lot. The monument is partially hidden from the surrounding avenues.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The spatial organization of the Leavenworth Lot retains its historic character. Although the spatial organization of the lot has been altered by the growth of vegetation the character of the space reflects the historic period due to the overhead canopy and the unchanged topography and therefore, it is an existing feature.

### Views and Vistas

**Historic Condition:** The views and vistas from the Leavenworth Lot were not extensive from this lot because of the heavy vegetation. Views were contained to the adjacent lots and to the intersection of Maple and White Oak avenues.

**Existing Condition:** Views and vistas from the lot to the surrounding cemetery are severely limited due to the dense overhead canopy of the white oak and cucumber magnolias. The trees also block views to the monument.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The views from and to the Leavenworth Lot are relatively unchanged. The views of the lot during the historic period were not extensive because of the dense vegetation. Existing vegetation provides a dense canopy and barrier to views. Existing views reflect the historic character of the site and therefore, are contributing features.

### Circulation

**Historic Condition:** The circulation of the Leavenworth Lot was organized by the topography and avenues. Woodbine, the path that was located at the west end of the lot separated the Leavenworth Lot from the west portion of Section thirteen. The material finish was not documented. This was the path that carried the visitors in their horse drawn carriage to the lot.

The Leavenworth Lot was accessed by the main avenues Maple and White Oak. These main avenues led the visitor from Dedication Valley into the core of the cemetery; these routes also led the Leavenworths to their lot, and Woodbine was accessible from each of these avenues. The material finish of the main avenues was compacted soil and gravel. The main avenues contained the cobble gutters that carried runoff from the surrounding lots.

**Existing Condition:** The circulation of the Leavenworth Lot is organized by the topography and avenues. Woodbine, the path that was located at the west end of the lot, no longer exists.

The Leavenworth Lot is accessed by the main avenues Maple and White Oak. These main avenues no longer function as roads. The material finish is turf and therefore, there is no clear definition in material between the lot and the avenues. The location of the roads is still apparent in the landform. No cobblestone gutters exist on these avenues.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

### Furnishings and Objects

#### Gravemarker

**Historic Condition:** The gravemarker was located at the high point of the lot. The gravemarker is illustrated in the circa 1870s engraving at the west end of the lot. The gravemarker had a carved cross on the top and was made of stone.

**Existing Condition:** The gravemarker located at the high point of the lot, exists in its original location. The gravemarker is illustrated in the circa 1870s engraving at the west end of the lot. The gravemarker had a carved cross on the top and was made of stone. The new gravemarkers replicate the historic gravemarker. The gravemarkers are flush with the ground, and are made of stone.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The condition of the gravemarkers was not assessed for this report. The gravemarkers exist although their position has been altered, by placing the stones flush with the ground. The change in position effects the visual organization of the lot. The gravemarkers exist from the historic period and therefore, are contributing features.

## THE LONGSTREET LOT

Cornelius Tyler Longstreet was the grandson of one of Syracuse's early settlers, Comfort Tyler Longstreet. While his grandfather established himself in the salt industry, Cornelius was a clothing merchant and financier. The Longstreet Lot was located in Section three at the crest of a hill (see figure 5.40). The lot's location combined with the size of the Longstreet tomb gave the site a prominent position in the cemetery. The tomb was situated at the high point of the lot and from this point views to Dedication Valley were extensive.

Longstreet purchased lots 104 through 143 on August 1, 1862 for \$734.16. The total size of the combined lots was 8,054 square feet. The price of land was twelve cents per square foot which classified the lot as second class according to the Trustee's classification system.

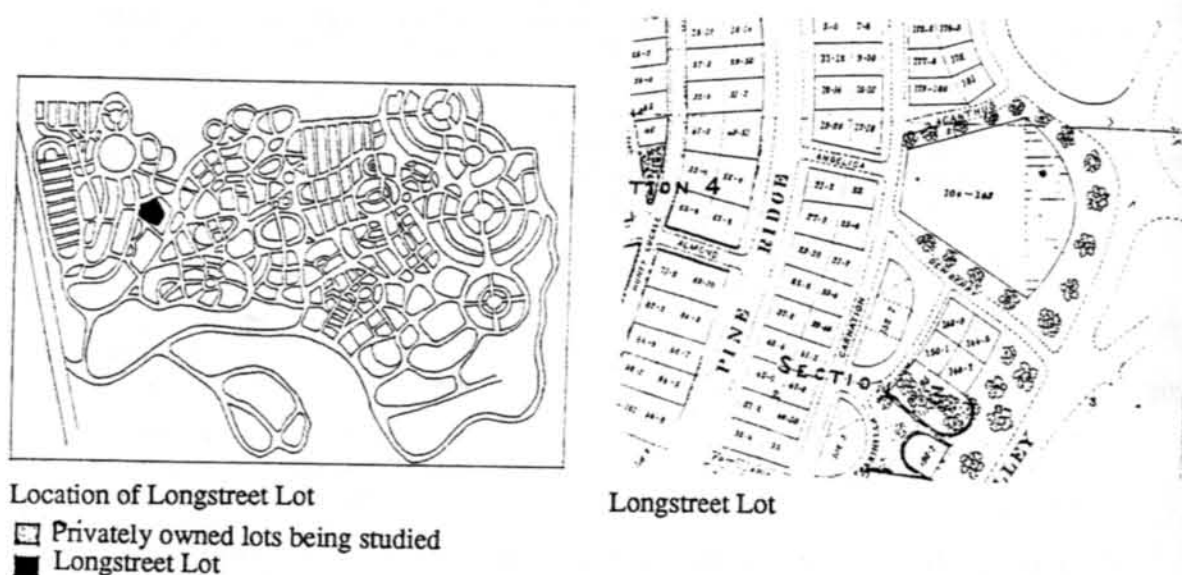


Figure 5.40 Location of the Longstreet Lot  
a. Location of Longstreet Lot in cemetery (Map traced from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).  
b. Location in section (Map from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by Rhesa Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

## HISTORY

Several photographs document the Longstreet Lot. The historic documentation for the Longstreet Lot consists of several historic photographs from circa 1870-1894. The original Longstreet Vault is documented in a circa 1870s photograph and in an 1871 engraving from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood*. Two circa 1880 and circa 1890 photographs document the vegetation and other site features. A circa 1880 view documents the west of the lot that was the main entrance.

## Topography

The topography of the Longstreet Lot provided the lot with a highly visible location in the cemetery. The Longstreet Lot occupied one of the largest single lots in the cemetery. The lot occupied a large portion of the ridge that enclosed Dedication Valley to the west (see figure 5.41). The lot extended from the high point to the edge of Dedication Valley (see figure 5.42). The top of the lot was graded to provide a level area for the monument and path.

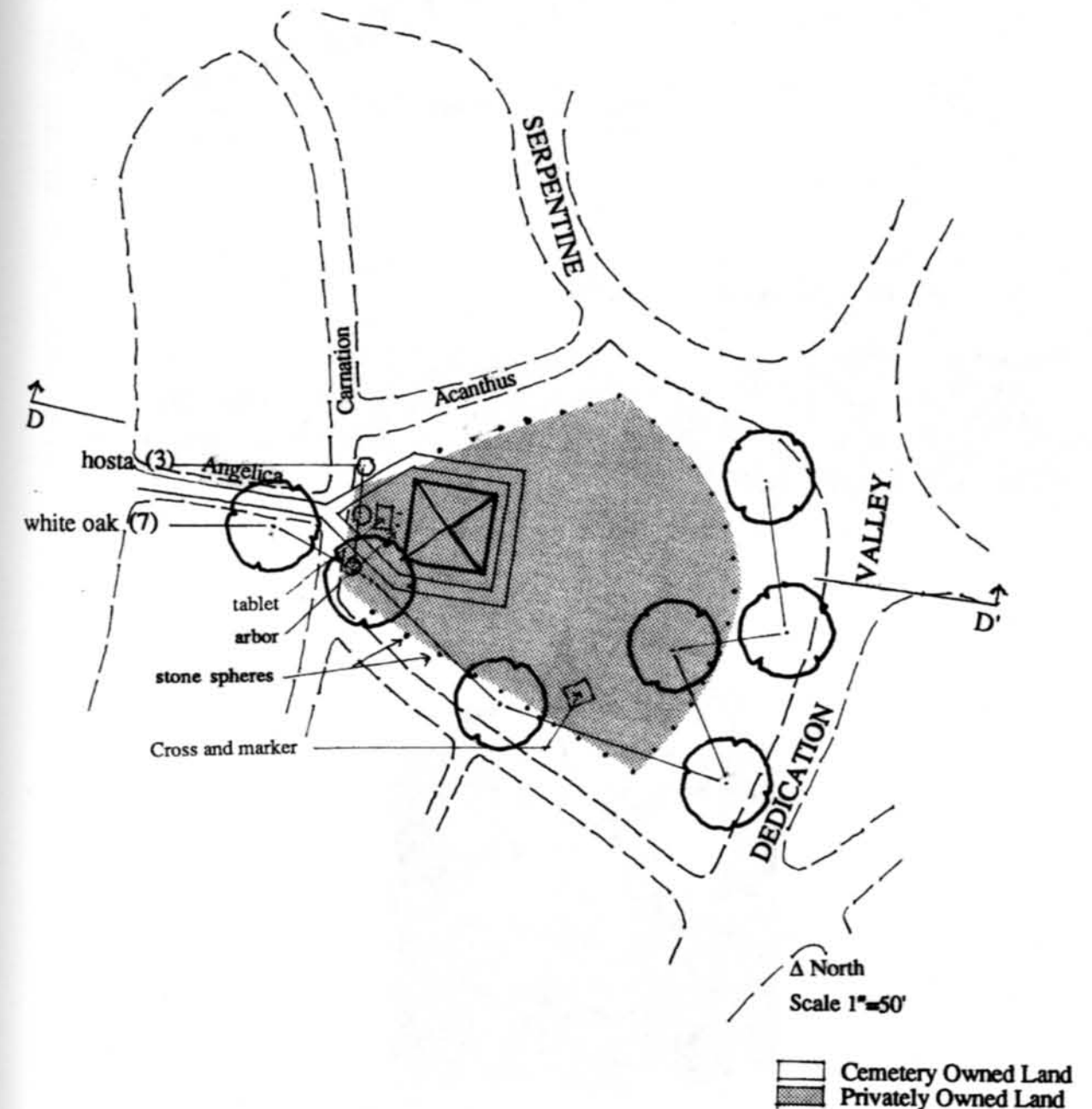


Figure 5.41 Plan of Longstreet Lot, circa 1880s (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



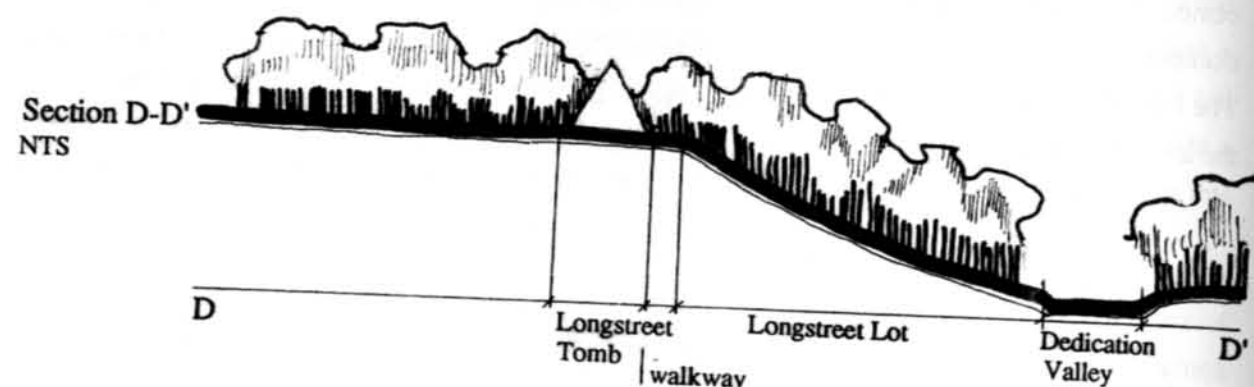


Figure 5.42 Section through Longstreet Lot (Day, 1993).

### Buildings and Structures

The structure on the Longstreet Lot consisted of the vault depicted in the circa 1870s photograph and 1871 engraving. The vault is a large buttressed structure designed and built by John Dee, builders (see figure 5.43 and 5.44).<sup>136</sup>



Figure 5.43 Engraving of original Longstreet vault, 1871 (H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871).

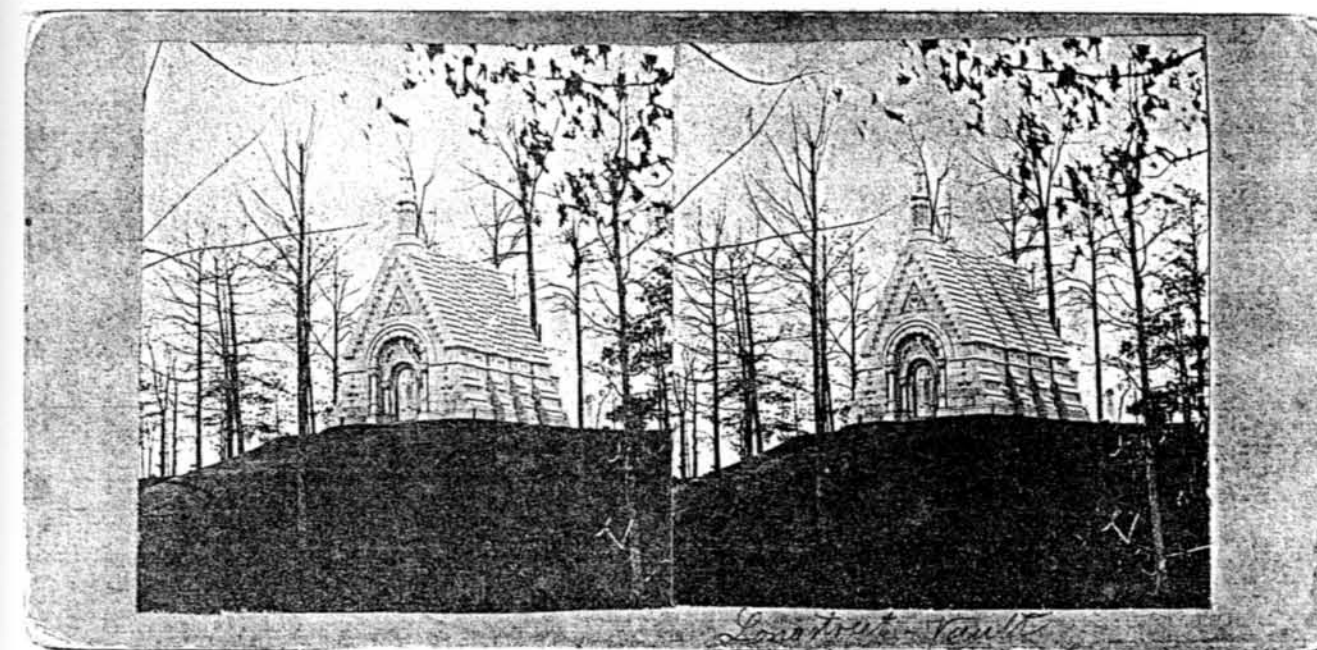


Figure 5.44 View of original Longstreet Vault, circa 1870s (Onondaga Historical Association).

In 1880 the stone pyramid vault was built to replace the original vault (see figure 5.45). Although it is not known why it was necessary to replace the first vault, aesthetics could be responsible for the change. The pyramid is a reflection of the Egyptian revival style that was very popular at this time. Gardens in Europe and other rural cemeteries such as Mount Auburn displayed Egyptian ruins. In *Silent City on a Hill*, Blanch Linden-Ward states that the Egyptian revival was an attempt to imply a sense of history. In England, Egyptian structures placed in a garden :

intended to imply an even older and purer source of law and civilization. Forms drawn from Nature itself referred not only to natural law but to the inexorable processes of Nature in the cyclical view of history. Elevation of 'tastes' through exposure of all of these elements, so philosophers argued, would raise the moral and ethical character of a new class of citizens able to govern themselves.<sup>137</sup>

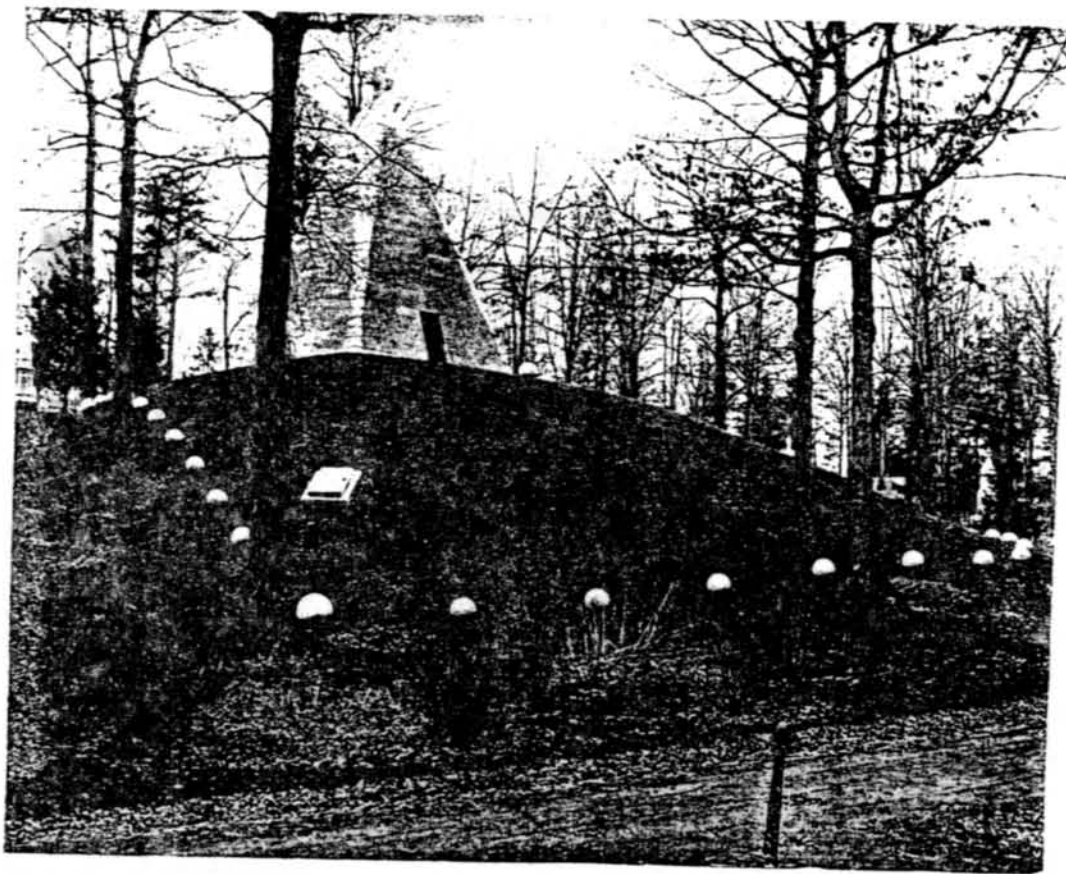


Figure 5.45 View of 1880 Longstreet Vault, circa 1890s (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894).

### Vegetation

The vegetation in the Longstreet Lot consisted of trees and planted shrubs. The circa 1870 photograph of the lot illustrates trees located around the original Longstreet vault (see figure 5.44). Several trees were located along the south border and along Dedication Valley. The trees are white oaks.<sup>138</sup> The oaks are also visible in the 1880s photograph. The slope leading to the vault is clipped grass.

The four photographs of the 1880 vault illustrate a variety of plant materials. The circa 1890 photograph of the lot taken from Dedication Valley illustrates the white oaks along the border of the lot and to the west of the vault (see figure 5.45). The later photograph (circa 1890s) also taken from Dedication Valley illustrates a number of shrubs at the south east corner of the lot. One large hosta was planted between the corner of the lot and the road edge. The one large shrub, approximately five feet tall that marked the corner, was a catalpa (*Catalpa speciosa*).<sup>139</sup> Three unidentified shrubs lined the south border of the lot. One white oak was located midway along the south border of the lot. The vault was covered with vines that were not present in early photographs.

The circa 1880 photograph was taken from the west and illustrated the entrance to the lot. The lot was entered from the path "Carnation", and then a stone path led the visitor to the entrance to the vault located on the east. Three hostas were located symmetrically around the entrance path. An arch arbor with climbing vines is located in front of the tomb (see figure 5.46).

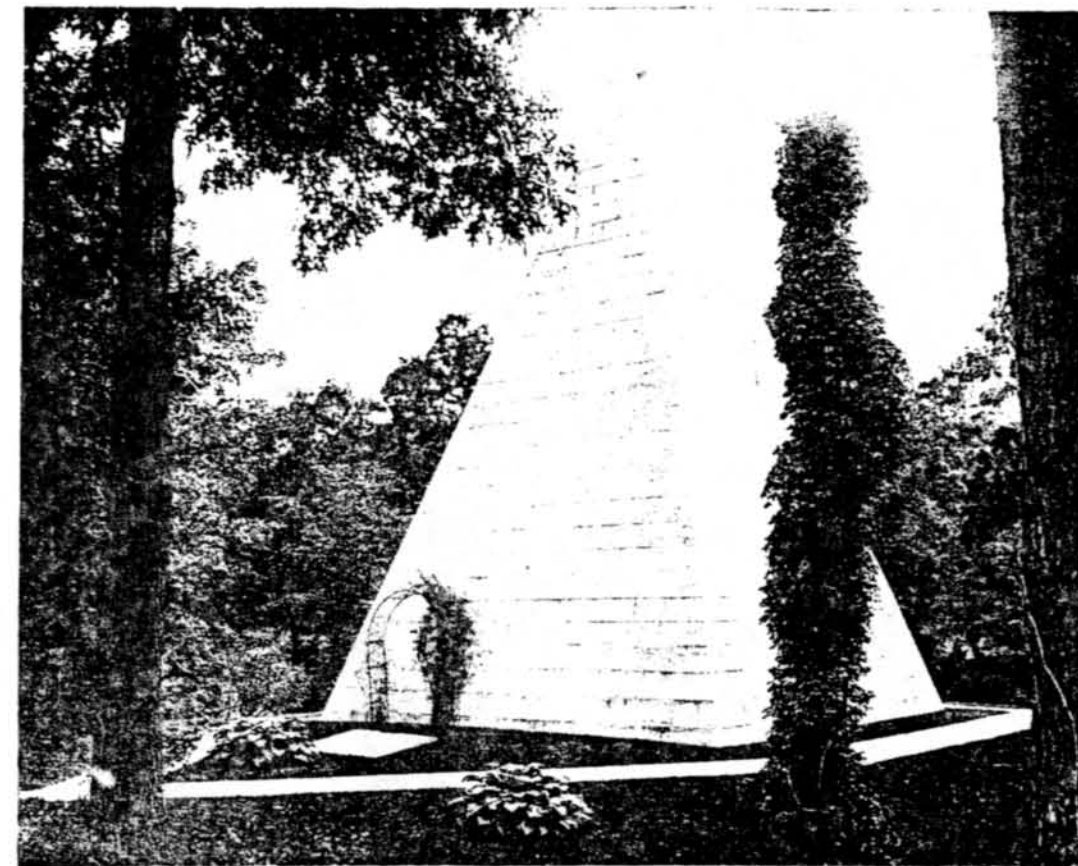


Figure 5.46 View of Longstreet Lot, circa 1880 (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894).



### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Longstreet Lot was defined by the topography, vegetation, and the vault. The location of the 1880 Longstreet Vault on the high point of the lot created a strong focal point for views from all points in Dedication Valley (see figure 5.47). The vault and the topography of the lot provided order to the spatial organization of the lot, as well as the larger context of Dedication Valley. The main space of the lot was defined by topography and occupied the level area around the vault. The lot space was defined by the border of trees located at the perimeter of the lot and the stone spheres which were spaced evenly along the boundary.

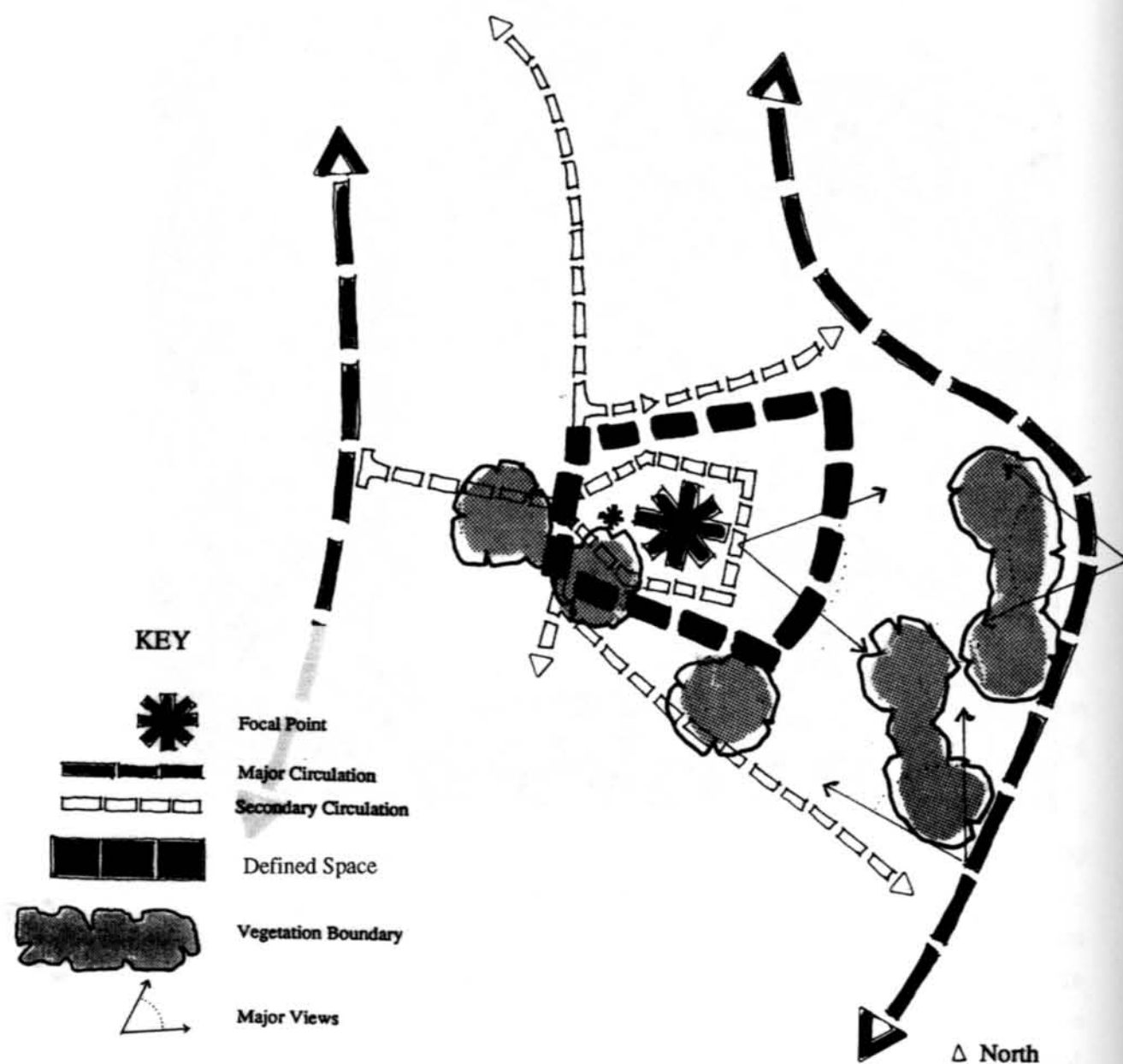


Figure 5.47 Spatial Organization of Longstreet Lot (Day, 1993).

### Views and Vistas

Views and vistas from the Longstreet Lot extended east across Dedication Valley, and west to Onondaga Valley (see figure 5.47). Views to the Longstreet vault were visible from all points in Dedication Valley as well as adjacent lots (see figure 5.48).

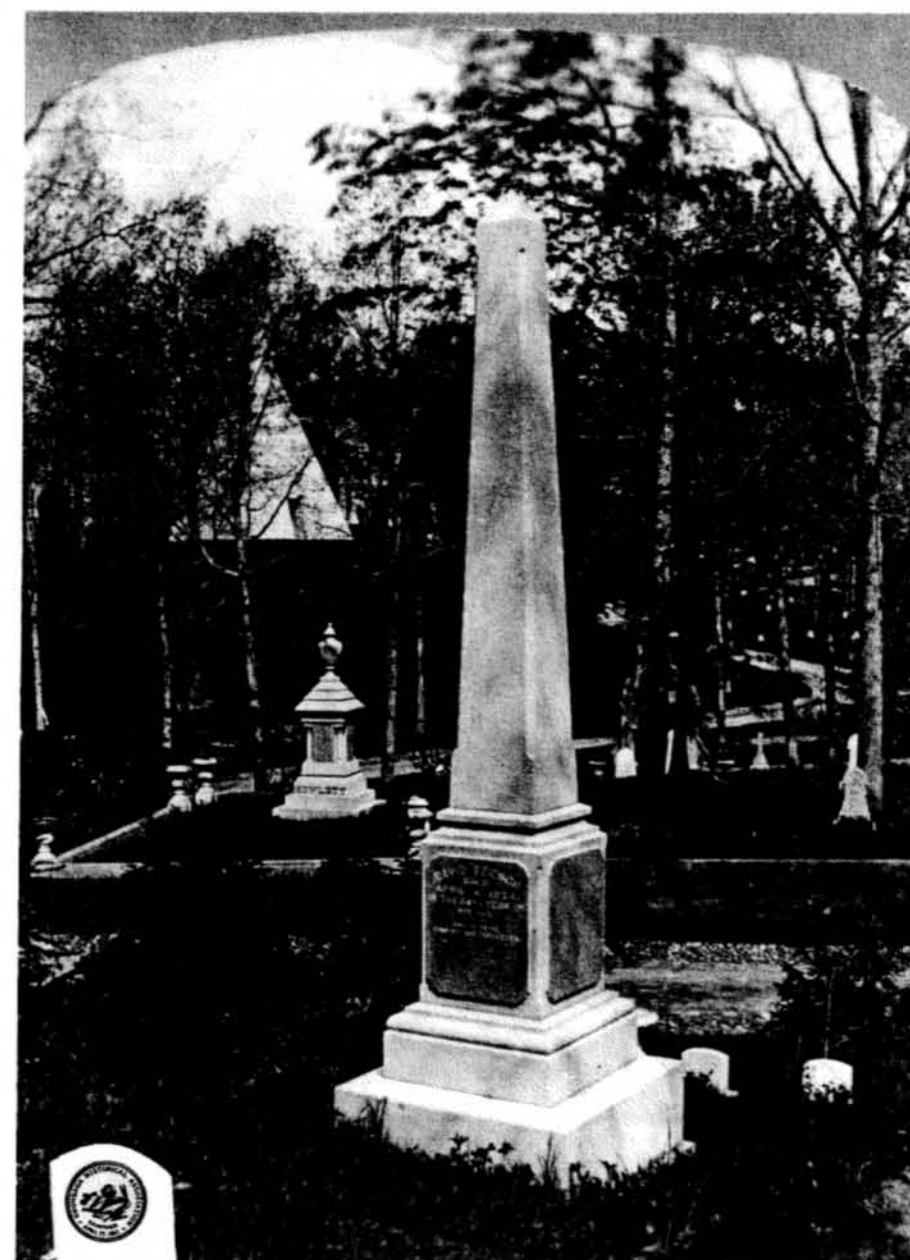


Figure 5.48 View of Longstreet Lot from Section fourteen, no date (Onondaga Historical Association).

### Circulation

The circulation of the Longstreet Lot led the visitor to the vault from the west. Photographs of the 1880 vault illustrate the rear of the lot. A formal stone path took the visitor from "Carnation" to the front of the Longstreet Vault. The path approached the vault and divided to wrap around each side of the pyramid.

The Longstreet Vault was accessed by Serpentine and Sun Set Avenues. Due to the steep slope which led to the Longstreet vault from Dedication Valley, the visitor followed Serpentine Avenue, Sun Set, and finally, Carnation to enter the lot from the rear. If the visitor was on foot, he could follow the secondary paths, Dewberry or Acanthus. The material finish of Serpentine and Sun Set Avenues was compacted soil and gravel. The material of Dewberry and Acanthus is not known. There are no photographs showing the rear of the 1870 vault, and therefore information is not available about the articulation of the entrance from Carnation to the lot. There are no visible paths on the east-facing slope which connected the lot to Dedication Valley.

### Furnishings and Objects

The furnishings and objects illustrated in the 1880 photograph of the entrance to the Longstreet Lot were unique features in the cemetery landscape (see figure 5.49).

**Arbor:** An arch arbor was located at the west side of the vault; it framed a tablet placed at the foot of the pyramid that listed the family members interred there. The arch was approximately five feet tall and made of cast iron.

**Tablet:** A stone tablet was located at the foot of the pyramid. It was set in the middle of the stone paths and framed by the arbor. The tablet contained the names of the family members who were interred in the Longstreet Tomb.

**Stone Spheres:** Stone spheres were located around the perimeter of the Longstreet Lot. Although the spheres appeared to be rolling down the hill-side, they were actually used to delineate the boundary of the lot and separate the privately owned lot from the surrounding cemetery (see figure 5.46).

**Cross and marker:** A cross and tablet marker were located on the east slope of the lot (see figure 5.46). The two stone pieces were some type of funerary sculpture, one was a cross and one was a tablet marker which laid flush with the ground.

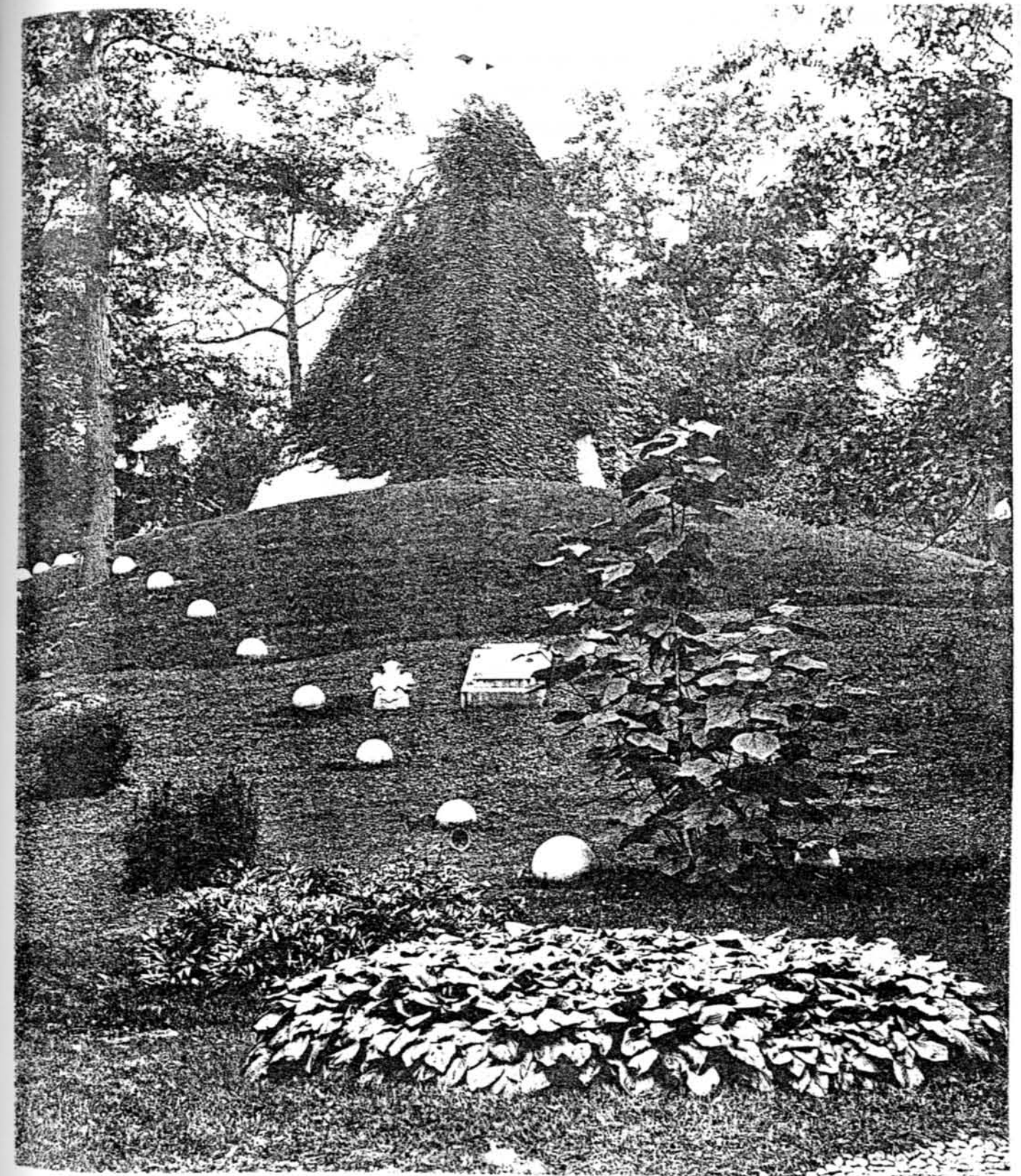


Figure 5.49

View of Longstreet Lot, circa 1880s (Annie Maltbie's *Picturesque Oakwood* (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, 1894).



## EXISTING CONDITIONS

The historic character of the Longstreet Lot has been altered by the lack of vegetation located around the vault. The existing condition of the Longstreet Lot was recorded. Field work verified the location of roadways, trees, and other site features. Photographs, field notes, and observation were used for recording plan materials, circulation systems, and existing features. Due to the fact that there was no base map or topographic map, recording existing conditions was difficult. Locations of features such as trees and roads were determined by the aerial photograph taken in 1992 and verified by field work.

### Topography

The topography of the Longstreet Lot exists in its original location.

### Buildings and Structures

The pyramidal 1880 Longstreet Vault, located at the high point of the lot, exists in its original location. The original door to the vault has been sealed with cement blocks.

### Vegetation

The vegetation on the Longstreet Lot consists of trees and stumps. The existing trees consist of four trees-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), two American yellowwood and one Norway maple. There are, however, three stumps that locate the positions of the historic trees on the slope: two along the road, and one at the mid-point of the slope (see figure 5.50). There is a fourth oak stump located at the rear of the tomb. Visible rings date the stump to over 130 years old. There are two hostas at the rear of the vault (see figure 5.51). The area at the south east corner of the lot which was planted with hostas and shrubs is now devoid of plant material. The slopes of the lot are clipped grass.

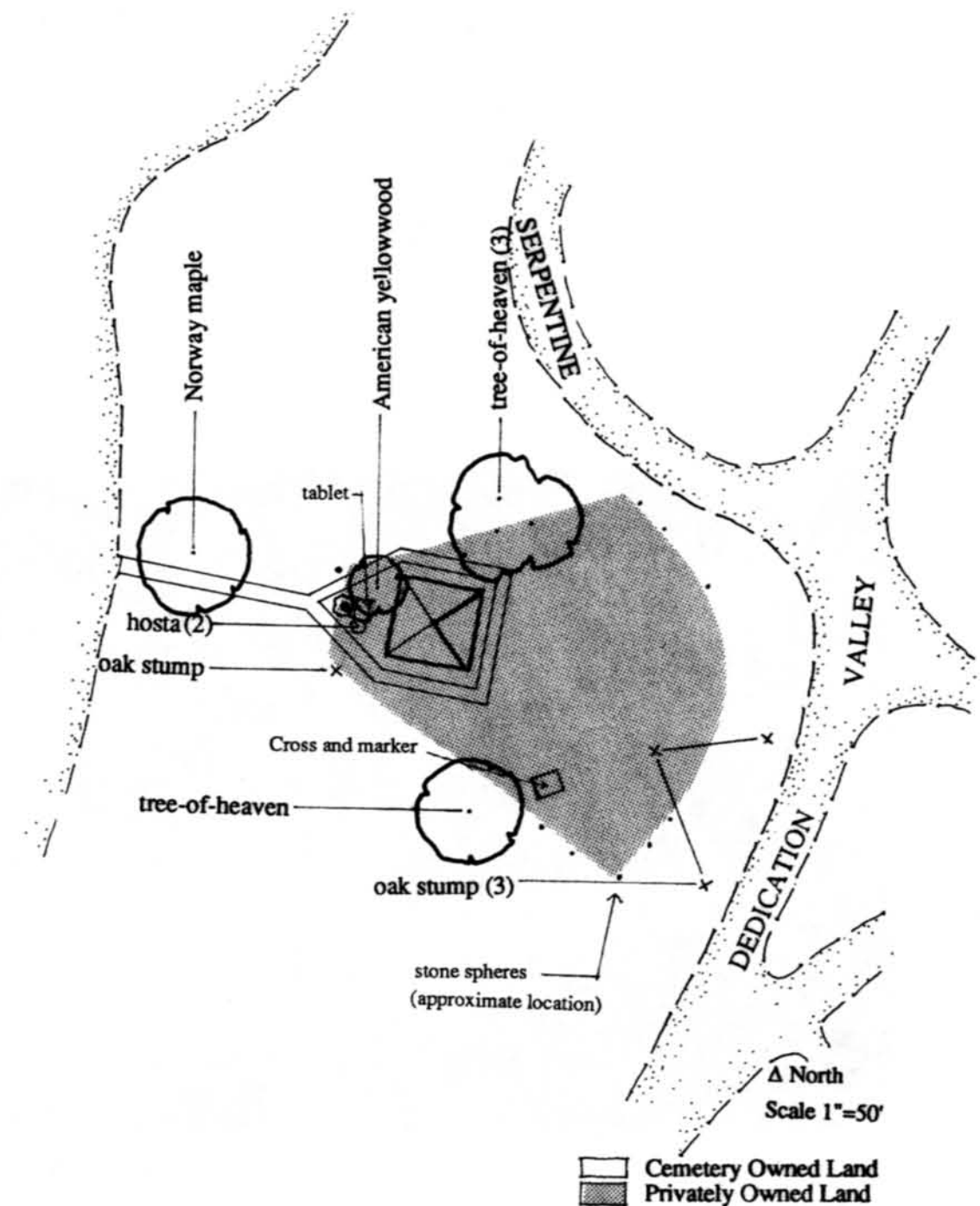


Figure 5.50

Existing Conditions Plan of Longstreet Lot (Day, 1993, from *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Book*, by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).



Figure 5.51 View of rear of Longstreet (Day, 1993).

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Longstreet Lot is defined by the topography and existing vegetation. Due to the lot's location on the high point of the cemetery and the size of the monument the site retains its prominence in the cemetery landscape. The space defined by the level topography around the vault is extant. The boundaries of the lot are not as clearly defined; the lot space was defined by the border of trees located at the perimeter of the lot and the stone spheres which are spaced evenly along the boundary. These trees that provided the vertical separation from the surrounding landscape are not extant. A number of the stone spheres that delineate the boundary on the ground plane are not extant thus altering their ability to clearly define the space.

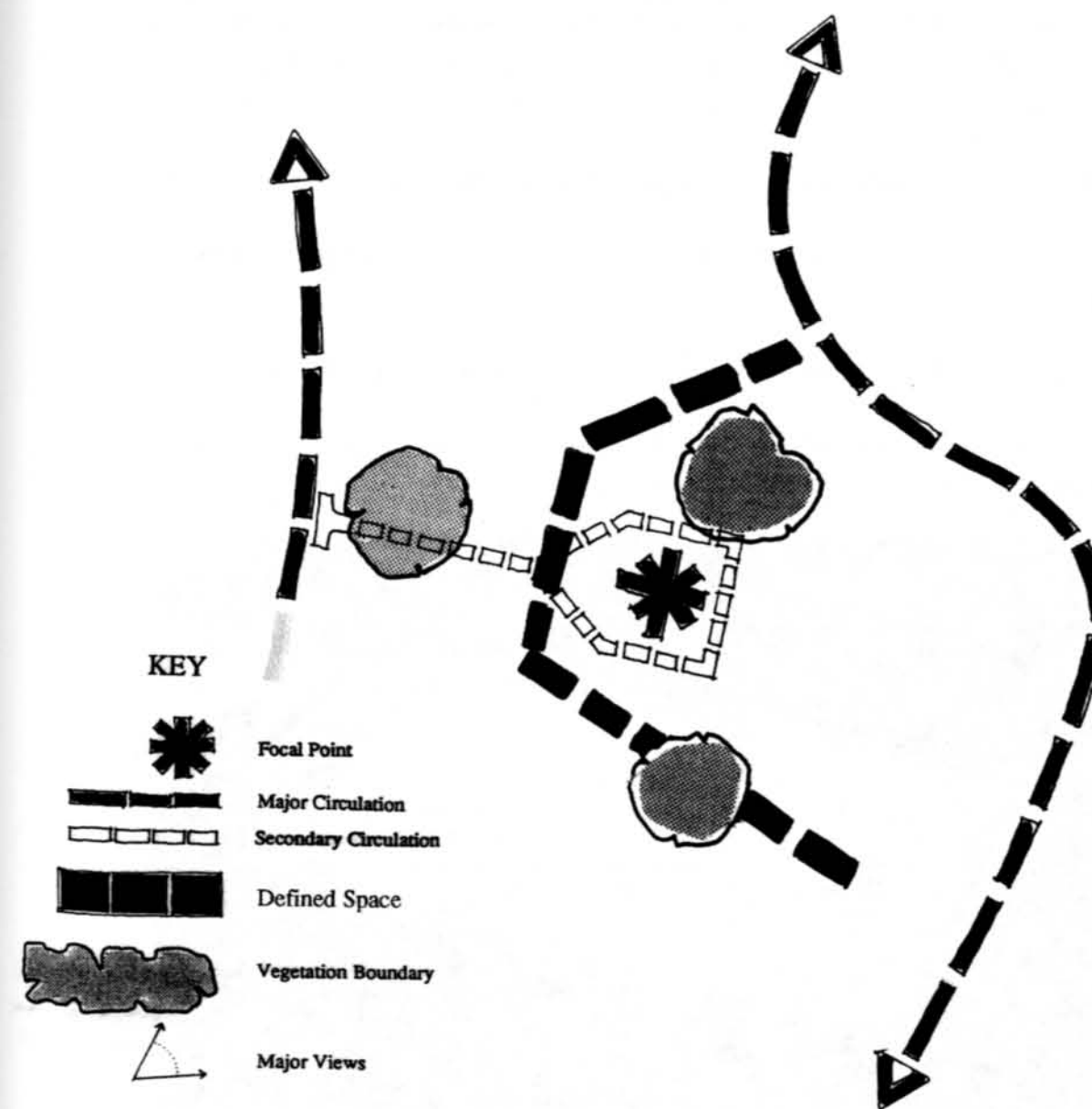


Figure 5.52 Spatial Organization of Longstreet Lot (Day, 1993).



## Views and Vistas

Views and vistas from the Longstreet Lot are not obstructed. The site is open due to the lack of the overhead canopy that was provided by the trees that bordered the lot in the historic period.

## Circulation

The circulation in the Longstreet Lot exists in its original location. The path that leads the visitor from Carnation to the rear of the tomb, and to the vault entrance located on the east exists in its original location. The material finish of the path is stone.

The Longstreet Vault is accessed by Serpentine and Sun Set Avenues. From Dedication Valley the visitor follows Serpentine Avenue, Sun Set, and finally, Carnation to enter the lot from the rear. The material finish of Serpentine and Sun Set Avenues is compacted soil and gravel.

## Furnishings and Objects

**Arbor:** The arbor, located to the west of the Longstreet vault, no longer exists.

**Tablet:** The tablet marker, located to the rear of the Longstreet vault, exists in its original location (see figure 5.53).

**Stone Spheres:** A number of the stone spheres located around the perimeter of the lot exist.

**Cross and marker:** The cross marker located on the east slope exists in its original location. The marker located on the east slope exists in its original location.



Figure 5.53 View of Longstreet Tablet, 1993 (Day, 1993).

## ANALYSIS

The analysis of the Longstreet Lot presents a comparison of the landscape features during the historic period to the existing condition of the lot. A comparison of the historic documentation to the existing conditions of the privately owned lot determines which site features contribute to the lot's integrity. A determination was then made regarding the contribution of the existing individual feature to the significance of the privately owned lot.

## Topography

**Historic Condition:** The topography of the Longstreet Lot provided the lot with a highly visible location in the cemetery. The Longstreet Lot occupied one of the largest single lots in the cemetery. The lot occupied large portion of the ridge that enclosed Dedication Valley to the west. The lot extended from the high point to the edge of Dedication Valley. The top of the lot was graded carefully to provide a level area for the monument and path.

**Existing Condition:** The topography of the Longstreet Lot exists in its original location.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The topography has not been altered. It retains its historic form and elevation and therefore, is a contributing feature.

## Buildings and Structures

**Historic Condition:** The structure on the Longstreet Lot consisted of the vault depicted in the circa 1870s photograph and 1871 engraving. The vault is a large buttressed structure designed and built by John Dee, builders. The buttressed vault was removed in 1880. The structure was replaced in 1880 by the stone pyramid vault.

**Existing Condition:** The 1880 vault, located at the high point of the lot exists in its original location. The monument is experiencing some damage from the existence of vines that were growing on it in the 1890s. The vines have been cut back, but the damage has been done as the thickening vines are causing the masonry to separate. The original door to the vault has been sealed with cement blocks.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The condition of the 1880 vault was not assessed for this report. Although the 1880 vault is experiencing some deterioration, it exists in its original location and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

## Vegetation

**Historic Condition:** The vegetation in the Longstreet Lot consisted of trees and planted shrubs. The circa 1870 photograph of the lot illustrate trees located around the original Longstreet vault. Several trees existed along the south border of the lot and Dedication Valley. The trees are white oaks, and are visible in the 1880s photograph. The slope leading to the vault was clipped grass.

The four photographs of the 1880 vault illustrate a variety of plant materials. The circa 1890 photograph of the lot taken from Dedication Valley illustrates the white oaks along the border of the lot and to the west of the vault. The later photograph (circa 1890s) taken also taken from Dedication Valley illustrates a number of shrubs at the south east corner of the lot. One large hosta was planted between the corner of the lot and the road edge. One large shrub, approximately five feet tall marked the corner. Three unidentified shrubs lined the south border of the lot. One white oak was located mid-way along the south border of the lot. The vault was covered with vines that were not present in early photographs.

The circa 1880 photograph was taken from the west and illustrates the entrance to the lot. The lot was entered from the path "Carnation", and a path led the visitor to the vault. Three hostas are located symmetrically around the entrance path. An arch arbor with climbing vines was located in front of the tomb. Other shrubs were planted on the north side of the walk.

**Existing Condition:** The Longstreet Lot today lacks the border of trees that once marked its boundary. There are, however, three stumps that locate the positions of the historic trees on the slope: two along the road, and one at the mid-point up the slope. There are several new deciduous trees at the crest of the hill. The existing trees consist of trees-of-heaven (4), American yellowwood (2), and one Norway maple. There is a fourth stump located at the rear of the tomb. Visible rings date the stump to over 130 years old. There are two hostas at the rear of the vault. The area at the south east corner of the lot which was planted with hostas and shrubs is now devoid of plant material. The slopes of the lot are clipped grass.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

### Spatial Organization

**Historic Condition:** The spatial organization of the Longstreet Lot was defined by the topography and vegetation, and the vault. The location of the 1880 Longstreet Vault on the high point of the lot created a strong focal point for views from all points in Dedication Valley. The vault and the topography of the lot provided order to the spatial organization of the lot, as well as the larger context of Dedication Valley. The main space of the lot was defined by topography and occupied the level area around the vault. The lot space was defined by the border of trees located at the perimeter of the lot and the stone spheres which were spaced evenly along the boundary.

**Existing Condition:** The spatial organization of the Longstreet is defined by the topography and existing vegetation. Due to the lot's location on the high point of the cemetery and the size of the monument the site retains its prominence in the cemetery landscape. The space defined by the level topography around the vault is extant. The boundaries of the lot are not as clearly defined; the lot space was defined by the border of trees located at the perimeter of the lot and the stone spheres which are spaced evenly along the boundary. These trees that provided the vertical separation from the surrounding landscape are not extant. A number of the stone spheres that delineate the boundary on the ground plane are not extant thus altering their ability to clearly define the space.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The spatial organization of the Longstreet Lot retains much of its historic character due to the strong articulation of the lot provided by topography and the large pyramidal tomb. The absence of border vegetation affects the spatial organization of the lot where it meets Dedication Valley.

### Views and Vistas

**Historic Condition:** Views and vistas from the Longstreet Lot extended east across Dedication Valley, and west to Onondaga Valley. Views to the Longstreet vault were visible from all points in Dedication Valley as well as adjacent lots.

**Existing Condition:** Views to and from the lot are not obstructed. The site is open due to the lack of the overhead canopy that was provided by the trees that bordered the lot.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The views to and from the lot are relatively unchanged and therefore, they are contributing features.

### Circulation

**Historic Condition:** The circulation of the Longstreet led the visitor to the vault from the west. Photographs of the 1880 vault illustrate the rear of the lot. A formal stone path took the visitor from "Carnation" to the front of the Longstreet Vault. The path approached the vault and divided to wrap around each side of the pyramid.

The Longstreet Vault was accessed by Serpentine and Sun Set Avenues. Due to the steep slope which led to the Longstreet vault from Dedication Valley, the visitor followed Serpentine Avenue, Sun Set, and finally, Carnation to enter the lot from the rear. If the visitor was on foot, he could follow the secondary paths, Dewberry or Acanthus. The material finish of Serpentine and Sun Set Avenues was compacted soil and gravel. The material of Dewberry or Acanthus is not known. There are no photographs showing the rear of the 1870 vault, and therefore information is not available about the articulation of the entrance from Carnation to the lot. There are no visible paths on the east-facing slope which connected the lot to Dedication Valley.

**Existing Condition:** The circulation in the Longstreet Lot exists in its original location. The path that leads the visitor from Carnation to the rear of the tomb, and around to the door exists in its original location. The material finish of the path is stone.

The Longstreet Vault is accessed by Serpentine and Sun Set Avenues. From Dedication Valley the visitor follows Serpentine Avenue, Sun Set, and finally, Carnation to enter the lot from the rear. The material finish of Serpentine and Sun Set Avenues is compacted soil and gravel.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

Circulation remains unchanged on the lot. It is a contributing feature.

### Furnishings and Objects

#### Arbor:

**Historic Condition:** An arch arbor was placed at the west face of the vault; it framed a tablet placed at the foot of the pyramid that listed the family members interred there. The arbor appeared to be made of cast iron.

**Existing Condition:** The arbor no longer exists.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

#### Tablet:

**Historic Condition:** A stone tablet was located at the foot of the pyramid. It was set in the middle of the stone paths and framed by the arbor. The tablet contained the names of the family members who were interred in the Longstreet Tomb.

**Existing Condition:** The tablet-like marker is located in its original position at the rear of the lot.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The tablet is in poor condition. It contributes to the historic character of the lot and therefore it is a contributing feature.

#### Cross and marker:

**Historic Condition:** A cross and tablet marker were located on the east slope of the lot. The two stone pieces were some type of funerary sculpture, one was a cross and one was a tablet marker which laid flush with the ground.



**Existing Condition:** The cross marker no longer exists. The marker exists in its original location.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing  
The marker is in fair condition. It contributes to the historic character of the lot and therefore it is a contributing feature.

#### Stone Spheres:

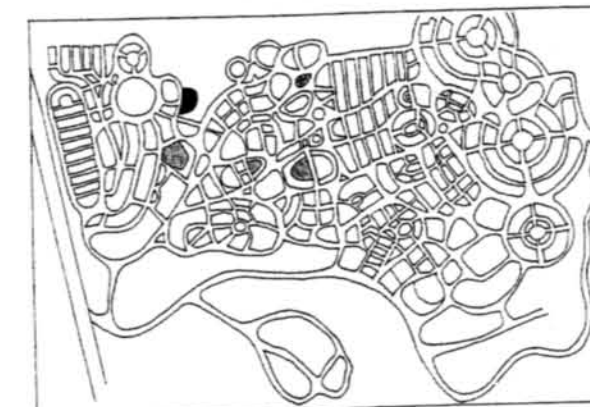
**Historic Condition:** Stone spheres were located around the perimeter of the Longstreet Lot. Although the spheres appeared to be rolling down the hill-side, they were actually used to delineate the boundary of the lot, and separate the privately owned lot from the surrounding cemetery.

**Existing Condition:** A number of stone spheres that marked to boundary of the lots remain on the site. They seem to be in the correct position, although many have been stolen or removed from the lot.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing  
Although a number of the spheres exist on the lot today, their function is not apparent. In 1898 the spheres delineated the boundary of the lot approximately three to four feet on center. The spheres continue to be a unique aspect of the cemetery, but their number and alignment do not express the boundaries of the lot. The stone spheres reflect the historic character of the lot and therefore, they are contributing features.

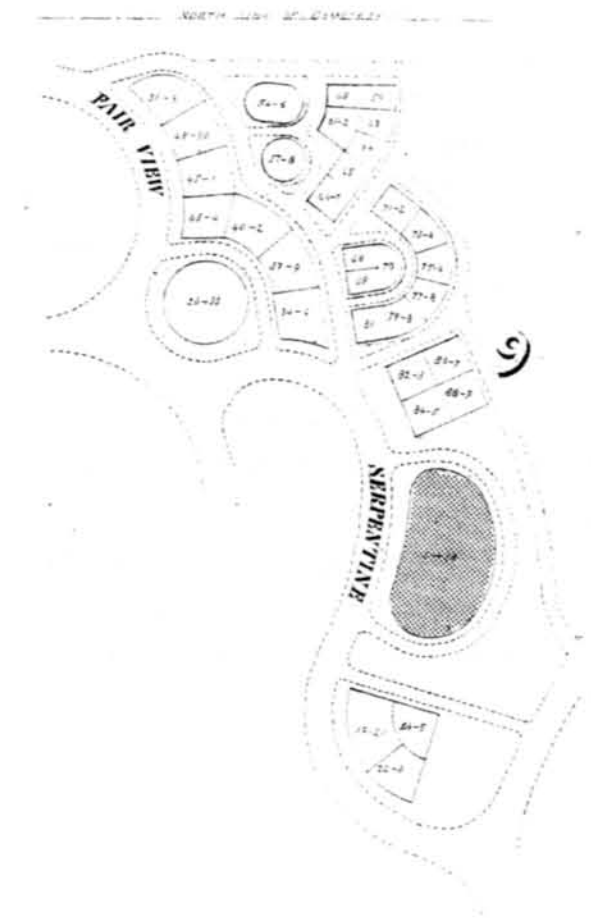
### THE MYERS LOT

Captain Austin Myers was a successful businessman in Syracuse. He owned a line of canal pack boats and real estate in the city.<sup>140</sup> The Myers Lot was located in Section three at the northern edge of Dedication Valley (see figure 5.54). It was purchased by W. J. Myers and L. W. Myers on June 6, 1860. The Myers purchased two lots equaling 400 feet for \$49.40. Lots fifteen and sixteen were combined to form a kidney shaped lot. The Myers Lot was located on a high spot along Serpentine Avenue which overlooked Dedication Valley.



Location of Myers Lot

- Privately owned lots being studied
- Myers Lot



Myers Lot

Figure 5.54

Location of the Myers Lot

- a. Location of Myers Lot in cemetery (Map traced from H. P. Smith's *A History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith, 1871)).
- b. Location in section (Map by Rhesa Griffin Jr., *Oakwood Cemetery Lot Books*, circa 1898).

## HISTORY

Three photographs document the Myers Lot. Each photograph is dated post-1870 according to the existence of the Mausoleum which was constructed in 1870. The changes in size of the spruce trees planted around the mausoleum were used to evaluate the chronology of the photographs although specific dates are not available.

## Topography

The topography of the Myers Lot organized the lot. The design of the Myers Lot was integrated with the topography of the site. The kidney shaped lot was oriented along Serpentine Avenue in order to take advantage of the gently rounded hillside (see figure 5.55). The land sloped east from Serpentine Avenue to a deep depression, but first it rose up to create a rounded platform for the Mausoleum.

## Buildings and Structures

The structure on the Myers Lot consists of the mausoleum that was designed and built by Randall and Nesdell. It was constructed circa 1870. It was described as a gothic structure with buttressed corners in H. P. Smith's *History of Oakwood*.

## Vegetation

Young blue spruce trees were planted formally along Serpentine Avenue and inside the low stone walls that enclosed the lot. There were several oak trees that were visible on each side of the mausoleum.<sup>141</sup> The dense quality of the planting is illustrated in two photographs (figure 5.56 and 5.57). The blue spruce trees also wrapped around to the front of the mausoleum, which created a woodland setting for the Gothic structure. The woodland character was illustrated in the circa 1890 photograph; there were an abundance of oaks in the foreground and the background.

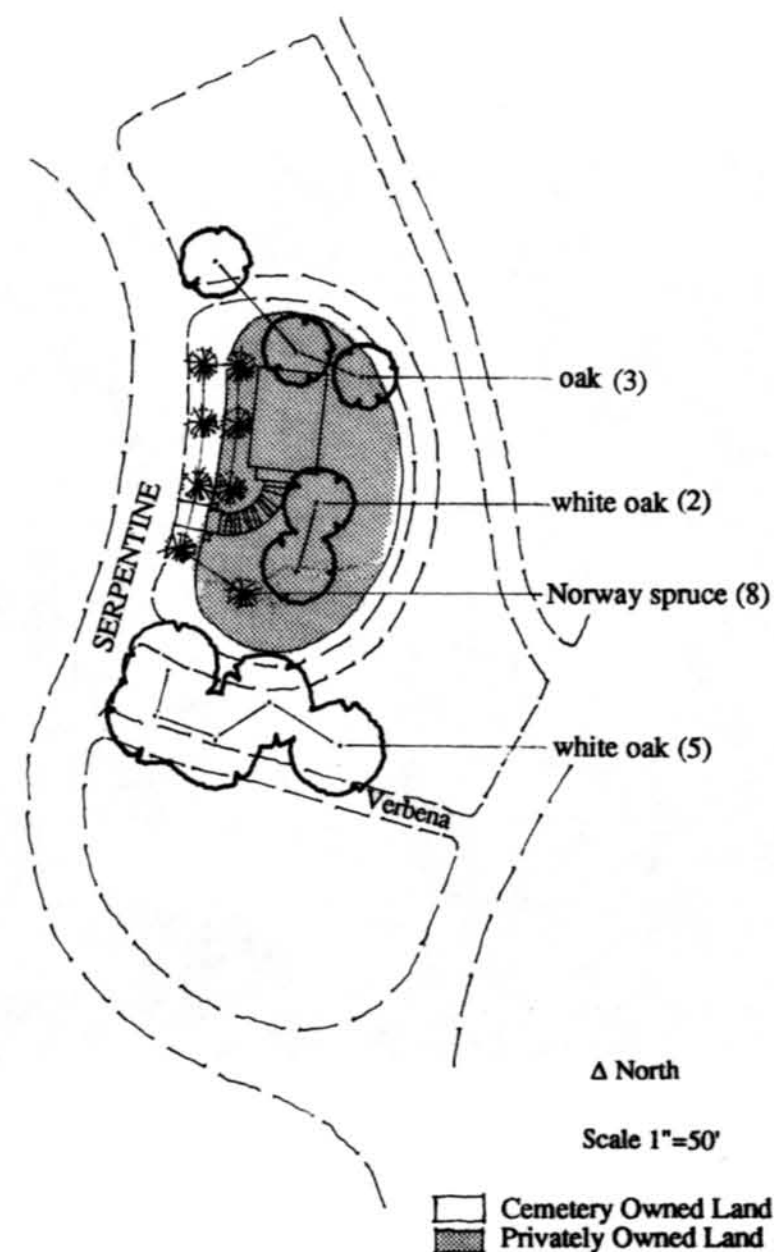


Figure 5.55 Plan of Myers Lot, circa 1880 (Day, 1993).





Figure 5.56 View from Serpentine Avenue, circa 1880 (Onondaga Historical Association).

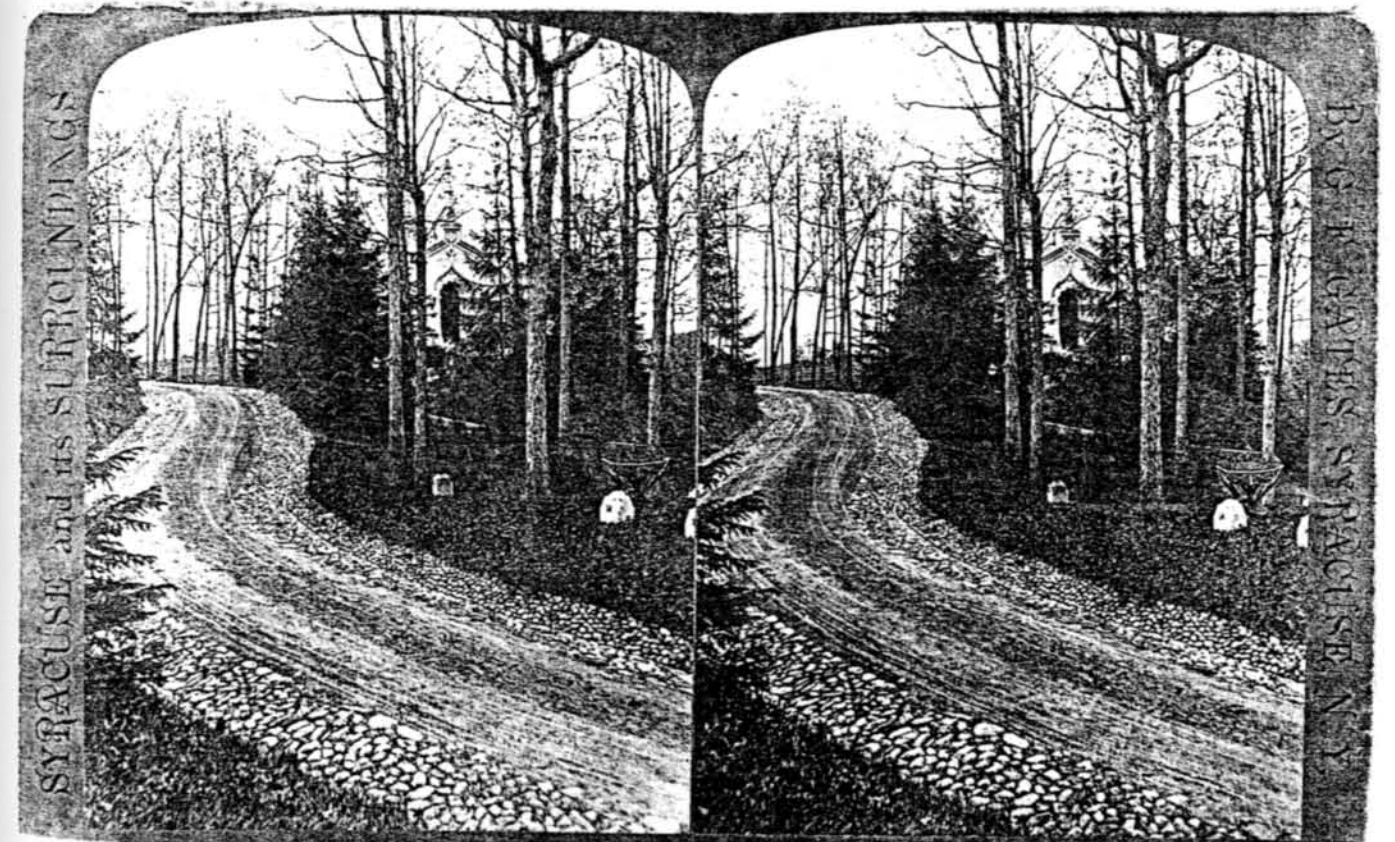


Figure 5.57 View of from Serpentine Avenue, circa 1890 (Onondaga Historical Association).

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Myers Lot was clearly defined on the ground plane by architectural elements such as the sculptural stone stairway and coping that surrounded the lot (see figure 5.58). The vertical elements that ordered the space were the vegetation and the Mausoleum. The monument was surrounded by dense woodland consisting of both deciduous and evergreen trees. This barrier enclosed the space and separated it from Dedication Valley while the height and style of the mausoleum with its delicate gothic spires ensured its visibility.

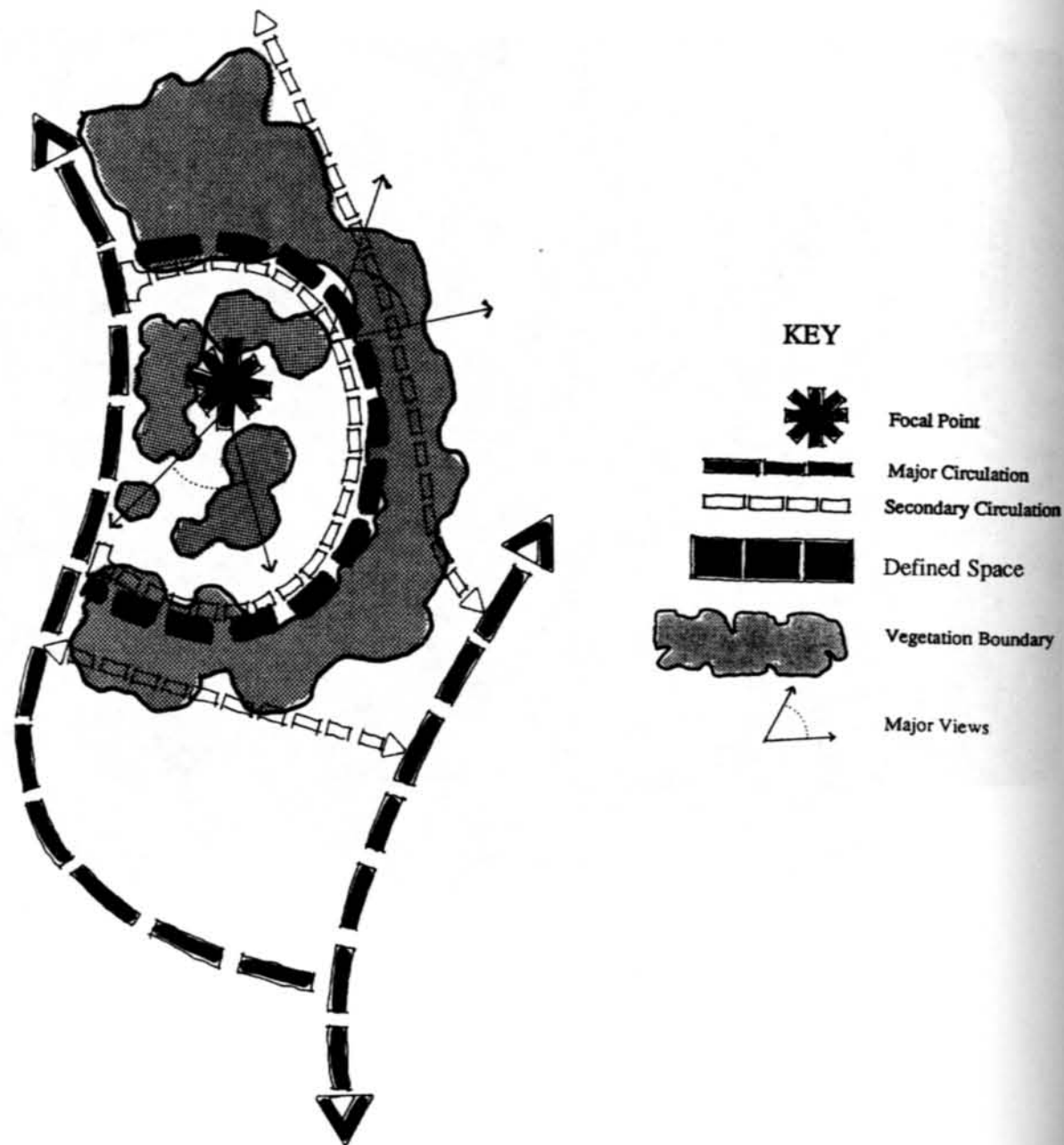


Figure 5.58 Spatial Organization of the Myers Lot, circa 1880 (Day, 1993).

### Views and Vistas

Views to the Myers Lot were obstructed by the woodland that surrounded it, yet the mausoleum was visible through the trees. The placement of the gothic mausoleum in the woodland provided a picturesque composition. Views from the lot were directed through the trees south into Dedication Valley from the entrance to the Mausoleum. The pathway around the lot directed views into the deep depression to the east of the lot that was probably viewed as possessing naturalistic qualities.

### Circulation

The circulation of the Myers Lot was articulated by architectural features such as walls and steps. The entrance to the lot from Serpentine Avenue was marked by a dirt path which led to a formal entry articulated by urn posts. A formal set of curved, stone steps wrapped around the slope of the hill to the entrance of the mausoleum (see figure 5.59). The low stone walls that enclosed the site and line the stairs controlled circulation on the Myers Lot and reinforced a formal feeling.

### Furnishings and Objects

No furnishings or objects ever existed on the Myers Lot.

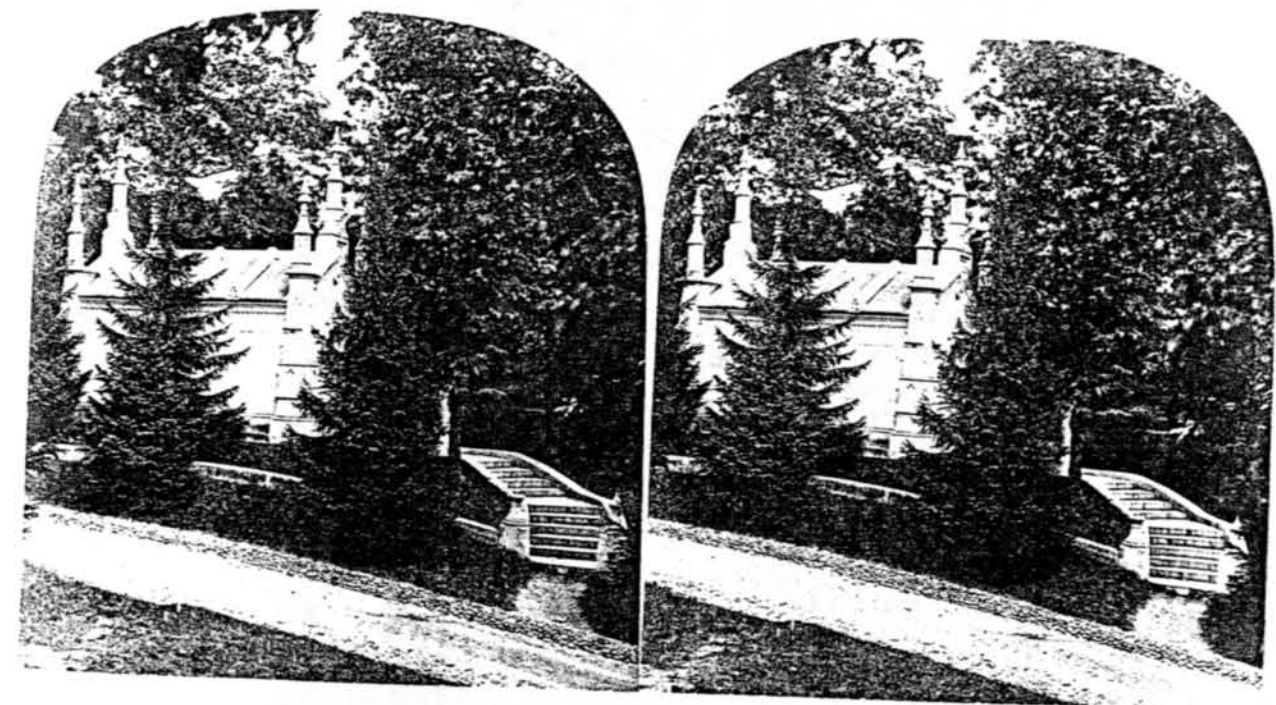


Figure 5.59 View of Myers Mausoleum from the west illustrating stone steps, circa 1880s (Onondaga Historical Association).



## EXISTING CONDITIONS

The historic character of the Myers Lot has been altered significantly. The form and character of the existing vegetation, circulation, and site features have changed over time. The existing condition of the Myers Lot was recorded. Field work verified the location of roadways, trees, and other site features. Photographs, field notes, and observation were used for recording plan materials, circulation systems, and existing features. Due to the fact that there was no base map or topographic map, recording existing conditions was difficult. Locations of features such as trees and roads were determined by the aerial photograph taken in 1992 and verified by field work.

### Topography

The topography of the Myers Lot exists in its original location.

### Buildings and Structures

The 1870 mausoleum exists in its original location. Exterior alterations to the building have occurred. The front entrance of the mausoleum was sealed with cement block and the six spires from the corners and peaks of the roof have been removed (see figure 5.60).



Figure 5.60 View of mausoleum illustrating exterior alterations (Day, 1993).

### Vegetation

The vegetation of the Myers Lot consists of three trees. One horsechestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) and one mugo pine (*Pinus mugo*) exist to the left of the entrance to the mausoleum (see figure 5.61 and 5.62). One white oak exists to the north of the mausoleum, and one northern red oak exists to the east of the mausoleum. Several oak stumps exist on the lot, and some of them are identified as the trees in the historic photographs.

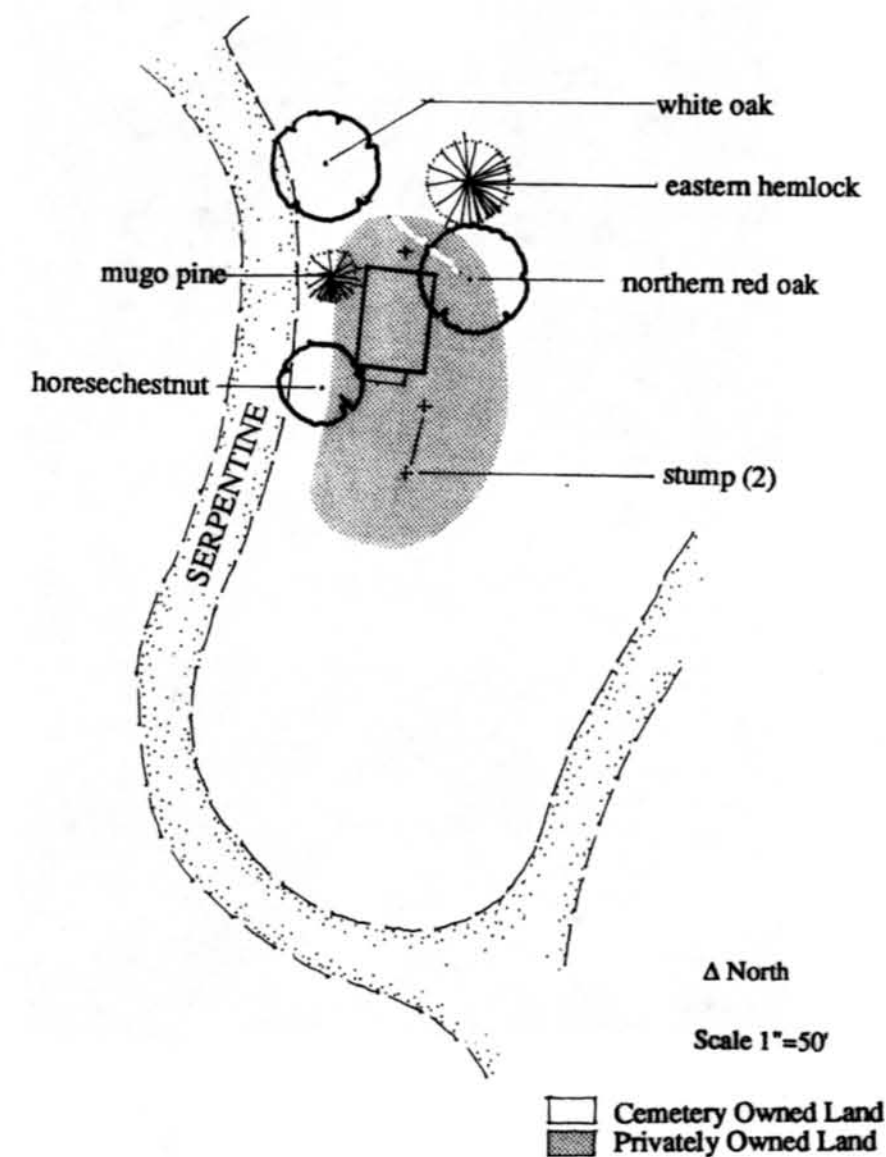


Figure 5.61 Existing Conditions Plan of Myers Lot (Day, 1993).



Figure 5.62 View of Myers Lot (Day, 1993).

### Spatial Organization

The spatial organization of the Myers Lot is defined by the topography and the Mausoleum. The location of the mausoleum is the focal point of the lot and the adjacent lots while the landform contributes further to the lot's prominence (see figure 5.63). A level area that surrounds the mausoleum defines the space.

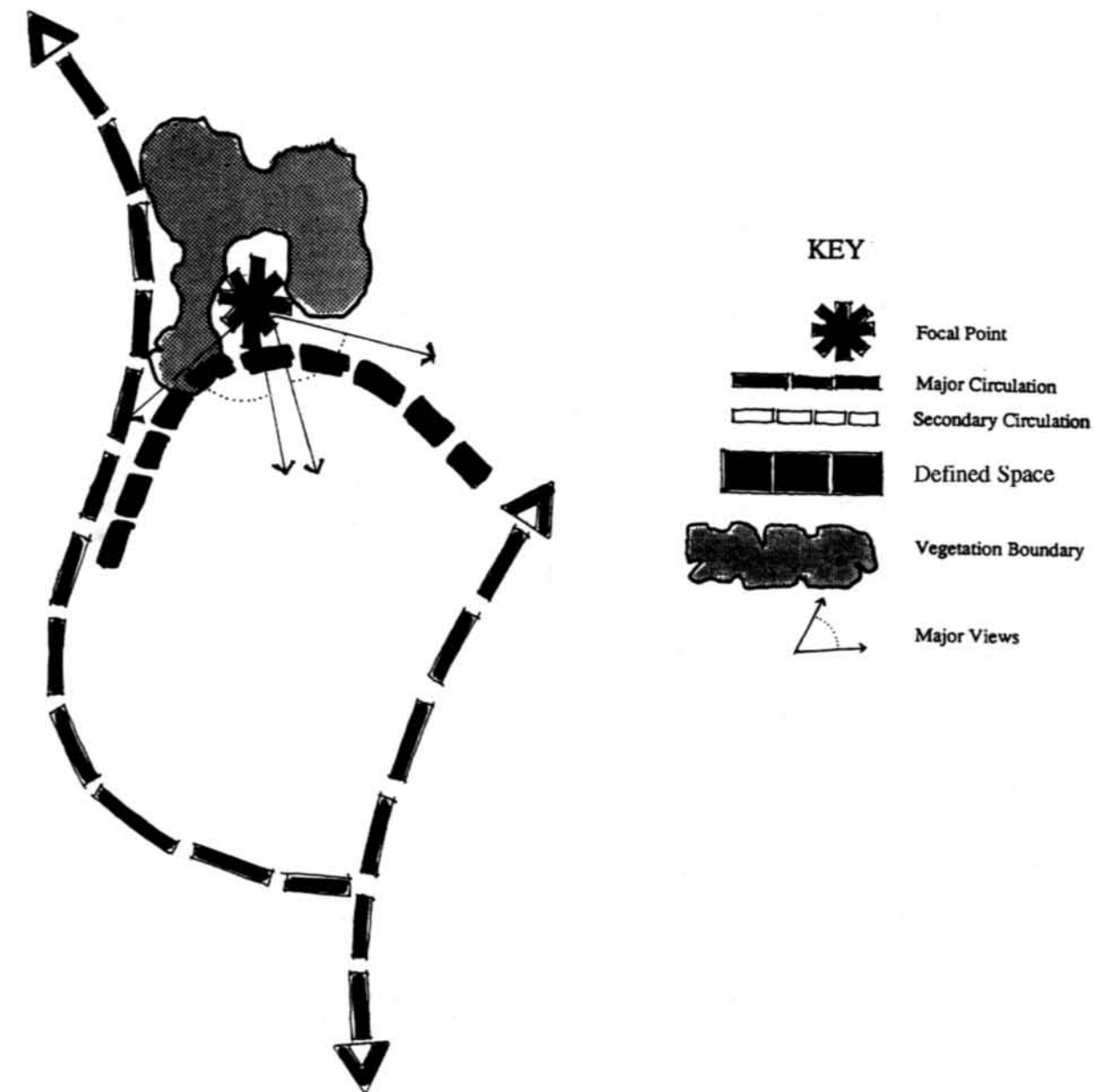


Figure 5.63 Spatial Organization of Myers Lot, 1993 (Day, 1993).



## Views and Vistas

Views and vistas from the Myers Lot are unobstructed; and these open views are very different from the historic composition that consisted of the mausoleum in a woodland setting (see figure 5.63). Views from the lot to Dedication Valley are unobstructed.

## Circulation

There are no existing paths, steps, or paths on this lot. The lot boundaries are not marked in any way (see figure 5.62). The slope that exists today appears to be much greater than it is in the historic photographs. The path that appears on the 1898 plan circling the lot is visible in the landform.

## Furnishings and Objects

There are no existing furnishings or objects.

## ANALYSIS

The analysis of the Myers Lot presents a comparison of the landscape features during the historic period to the existing condition of the lot. A comparison of the historic documentation to the existing conditions of the privately owned lot determines which site features contribute to the lot's integrity. A determination was then made regarding the contribution of the existing individual feature to the significance of the privately owned lot.

## Topography

**Historic Condition:** The topography of the Myers Lot organized the lot. The design of the Myers Lot was integrated with the topography of the site. The kidney shaped lot was oriented along Serpentine Avenue in order to take advantage of the gently rounded hillside. The land sloped east from Serpentine Avenue to a deep depression, but first it rose up to create a rounded platform for the Mausoleum.

**Existing Condition:** The topography of the Myers Lot exists in its original location.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing.

The topography has not been altered. It retains its historic form and elevation and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

## Buildings and Structures

**Historic Condition:** The structure on the Myers Lot consists of the mausoleum that was designed and built by Randall and Nesdell. It was constructed circa 1870. It was described as a gothic structure with buttressed corners in H. P. Smith's *History of Oakwood*.

**Existing Condition:** The 1870 mausoleum exists in its original location. Exterior alterations to the building have occurred. The front entrance of the mausoleum was sealed with cement block and the six spires from the corners and peaks of the roof have been removed.

**Analysis:** Existing, Contributing

The condition of the 1870 mausoleum was not assessed for this report. The mausoleum exists in its original location and therefore, it is a contributing feature.

## Vegetation

**Historic Condition:** Young blue spruce trees were planted formally along Serpentine Avenue and inside the low stone walls that enclose the lot. There were oak trees located on each side of the mausoleum. The blue spruce trees wrapped around to the front of the mausoleum, which created a woodland setting for the Gothic structure.

**Existing Condition:** The vegetation of the Myers Lot consists of three trees. One horsechestnut and one mugo pine exist to the left of the entrance to the mausoleum. One white oak exists to the north of the mausoleum, and one northern red oak exists to the east of the mausoleum. Several oak stumps exist on the lot, and some of them are identified as the trees in the historic photographs.

The horsechestnut and mugo pine are not historic trees. The white oak are historic and can be seen in the 1880 photographs. The stumps locate the position of the white oaks visible in the photographs. None of the blue spruces remain. At one time the Myers mausoleum had the appearance of standing in a wood lot, now the character is severely altered. There are no trees to the south of the mausoleum.

**Analysis:**

**Composition:** Non-existing

**Individual trees:** Existing, Contributing

Two trees exist on the Myers Lot from the historic period. One white oak exists to the north of the mausoleum, and one northern red oak exists to the east of the mausoleum. These trees reflect the historic character and therefore, are contributing features.

## Spatial Organization

**Historic Condition:** The spatial organization of the Myers Lot was clearly defined on the ground plane by architectural elements such as the sculptural stone stairway and coping that surrounded the lot. The vertical elements that ordered the space were the vegetation and the Mausoleum. The monument was surrounded by dense woodland which consisted of both deciduous and evergreen trees. This barrier enclosed the space and separated it from Dedication Valley while the height and style of the mausoleum with its delicate gothic spires ensured its visibility.

**Existing Condition:** The spatial organization of the Myers Lot is defined by the topography and the Mausoleum. The location of the mausoleum is the focal point of the lot and the adjacent lots while the landform contributes further to the lot's prominence. A level area that surrounds the mausoleum defines the space.

**Analysis:** Non-Existing

## Views and Vistas

**Historic Condition:** Views to the Myers Lot were obstructed by the woodland that surrounded it, yet the mausoleum was visible through the trees. The placement of the gothic mausoleum in the woodland provided a picturesque composition. Views from the lot were directed through the trees south into Dedication Valley from the entrance to the Mausoleum. The pathway around the lot directed views into the deep depression to the east of the lot that was probably viewed as possessing naturalistic and sublime qualities.

**Existing Condition:** Views and vistas from the Myers Lot are unobstructed. The open quality of the views are is different from the historic composition that consisted of the mausoleum in a woodland setting.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

## Circulation

**Historic Condition:** The circulation of the Myers Lot was articulated by architectural features such as walls and steps. The entrance to the lot from Serpentine Avenue was marked by a dirt path which led to a formal entry articulated by urn posts. A formal set of curved, stone steps wrapped around the slope of the hill to the entrance of the mausoleum. The low stone walls that enclosed the site and line the stairs controlled circulation on the Myers Lot and reinforced a formal feeling.

**Existing Condition:** The circulation of the Myers Lot has been altered significantly. There are no existing walkways, steps, or paths on this lot. The lot boundaries are not marked in any way. There is no path leading to the entrance, and no boundary surrounding the lot. The formal set of curved stone steps that wrapped around the slope of the hill have been removed.

**Analysis:** Non-existing

## Furnishings and Objects

There were no documented furnishings or objects on the Myers Lot.

## Summary

Oakwood Cemetery was comprised of two zones: the public space, land owned and maintained by the Board of Trustees, and the private space, lots owned and operated by individuals or families. This created two levels of detail: the large scale organization of the land, encompassing topography, circulation, spatial organization and vegetation, and the small scale features of the privately owned lots. The examination of the five lots owned by the Robert Gere, Hiram Hoyt, Elias Leavenworth, C. T. Longstreet, and Austin Myers families illustrates the variety of lot organization and arrangement employed by the individual lot owner. The way in which a lot owner contributed to the richness of the cemetery landscape varied; some lot owners such as Robert Gere and Austin Myers used unique planting arrangements while others, such as Elias Leavenworth and Longstreet used elaborate architectural monuments.

Although each lot owner created a unique lot organization, similarities between the lots ensure the unified composition of the larger landscape. Each lot examined used the topography to order and organize the lay out of the lot. The monument or mausoleum was placed on the high point of the lot, thus emphasizing both the visibility of the monument and the elevation of the landform itself. Each of the five lots discussed were delineated and separated from the surrounding landscape. Leavenworth and Gere employed the topography to separate their lots from the surrounding landscape, Hoyt and Myers used low stone coping, and Longstreet placed stone spheres to delineate the boundary clearly. Although each of the five privately owned lots have experienced varying degrees of deterioration and change, they continue to exhibit a variety of unique lot features integral to the rural cemetery landscape.



## CHAPTER FIVE

### Privately Owned Lots: History, Existing Conditions and Analysis

The privately owned lots contribute to the richness of the landscape's character through the introduction of unique planting arrangements and site designs. The lots of the Robert Gere, Hiram Hoyt, Elias Leavenworth, C. T. Longstreet, and Austin Myers families were selected in order to illustrate the way in which the privately owned lots provided variety and character to the cemetery. The lots vary in size, style and monument type; some lot designs are modest and others are grand. The C. T. Longstreet and Austin Myers lots contain mausoleums the size of small buildings, while the Gere and Hoyt lots contain free standing monuments. The lots of two trustees, Austin Myers and Elias Leavenworth, were selected in order to compare the trustee's lots to the lots of other individual lot owners.

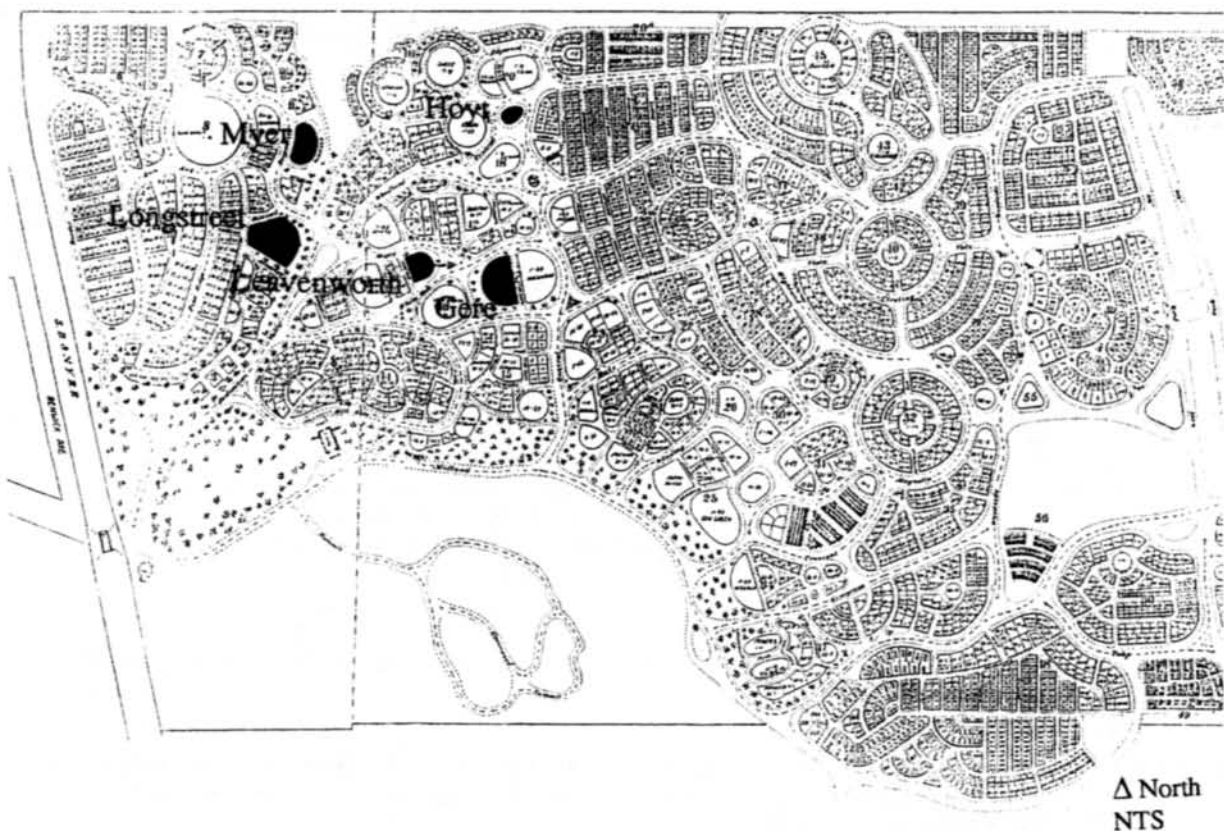


Figure 5.1 Location of five privately owned lots (Day, 1993, from map by R. Griffin Jr., circa 1898).

## CHAPTER SIX

### Treatment Recommendations

This chapter provides recommendations for the long term planning and management of Oakwood Cemetery. As the final chapter of this cultural landscape report, the treatment recommendations made are based on the research and analysis of the cemetery landscape and the three prototype areas developed for the purposes of this report: the Entry Area, the Inner Core, and the five privately owned lots. While it is possible and feasible for many of the recommendations presented in this report to be completed by the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association and the Oakwood Cemetery Association, a number of recommendations are part of a long term plan for the cemetery which will require the continued efforts of HOCPA to secure funding and support for the historic resource and the continued cooperation of HOCPA and the Oakwood Cemetery Association.

The following treatment recommendations are separated into three sections according to the prototype areas discussed: the Entry Area, the Inner Core, and the five privately owned lots. The treatment recommendations for each of the three prototype areas focus on issues such as vegetation management (the replacement and removal of trees and shrubs), the preservation of contributing features that reflect the historic character of the cemetery, and treatments that would re-establish the spatial character and organization of the cemetery.

The treatment recommendations are made based on the four approaches currently recognized by the Secretary of the Interior of the National Park Service for the treatment of historic resources: preservation, rehabilitation, reconstruction, and restoration. Several factors are used to determine the appropriate treatment of a landscape feature. Factors such as historical significance, condition, and current and proposed use determine whether preservation, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or restoration is appropriate. The treatments as defined by the National Park Service are as follows:

**Preservation** is the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of



mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.

**Rehabilitation** is the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions for features which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.

**Restoration** is the act of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project.

**Reconstruction** is the act or process of depicting by means of new construction, the form, features, and detailing of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, structure, or object for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time and in its historic location.<sup>142</sup>

## ENTRY AREA

The historic character of the Entry area has been altered significantly. The construction of Interstate Route 81 in 1964 and the closing of the main entrance changed the function and use of the Entry Area. Historically, the Entry Area was an integral part of the nineteenth century cemetery, and the reclamation of the spatial character of this area should be considered for interpretation purposes.

The recommendations made for the Entry Area focus on the re-establishment of the spatial organization of the Entry Area. The rehabilitation of the spatial organization of the Entry Area includes circulation, woodland areas, existing buildings and furnishings and objects. The re-establishment of the Entry Area for the use of visitors interested in the history of the cemetery also would reestablish the importance of the area and thus ensure the protection of the other significant buildings and structures located within the Entry Area such as the 1902 Gate and Bridge, Office, and Chapel.

### Recommendation #1: Rehabilitation of circulation in the Entry Area.

The function and character of circulation in the Entry Area has been altered significantly; it is no longer an organizing element in the entry sequence of the cemetery. The entry sequence was an important part of the nineteenth century cemetery and therefore rehabilitation is recommended.

A. It is recommended that the original circulation system be reconstructed in order to reestablish the entry sequence. The road that led the visitor from the 1902 bridge north to Dedication Valley should be constructed in its original location (see figure 6.1).

B. It is recommended that the existing road that leads visitors from the Chapel area to Dedication Valley be removed. This road did not exist in the period of significance, and alters the spatial organization of the Entry Area. After the road is removed the area should be regraded and filled to re-establish the historic elevation of ridge that extended from behind the Chapel west to the railroad tracks.

C. It is recommended that the curbing and sidewalks along Midland Avenue be preserved and replaced where they no longer exist.

D. It is recommended that the invasive vegetation which surrounds the 1902 bridge be removed in order to provide visual and physical access to the contributing feature.

E. It is recommended that the historic site and foundation of the Greenhouse be located in order to interpret the building.

### Recommendation #2: Rehabilitation of woodland areas in Entry Area.

The woodland areas historically associated with the Entry Area were essential to the spatial organization of the space. The woodlands provided a sense of enclosure to the Entry Area, separated the functions of the Entry Area from the other parts of the cemetery, and created the sequence of entry into the cemetery. The absence of vegetation today significantly alters the character of the area. Because the exact species of historic vegetation is not known for the woodland areas, rehabilitation of the woodland areas is recommended. Three general areas are recommended for re-vegetation: the area behind the 1902 Office, the area west of the Office, and the western boundary of the cemetery along the railroad tracks and Interstate Route 81 (see figure 6.1).

A. It is recommended that a variety of deciduous and coniferous trees should be planted along the existing hedgerow behind the 1902 Office. Species should include: black oak, red oak, white oak, white pine, white ash, sugar maple, red maple, pignut hickory, and shagbark hickory. It is also recommended that invasive vegetation should be removed from the turf area that surrounds the Office. Dense vegetation should extend from the railroad tracks to Summit Avenue to the north. This dense vegetation would serve two functions. First, the vegetation would provide the eastern border to the Entry Area that existed historically, and second, the vegetation would screen the contemporary fill area that exists directly adjacent to the Entry Area to the east.

B. It is recommended that a variety of deciduous and coniferous trees should be planted in the area west of the Office. Species should include black oak, red oak, white oak, white pine, white ash, sugar maple, red maple, pignut hickory, and shagbark hickory. The vegetation should be set back from the roads approximately twenty feet as documented in historic photographs. Attention should be paid to historic location of Greenhouse. No vegetation should be planted in this area.

C. It is recommended that a variety of deciduous and coniferous trees should be planted along the reestablished road to Dedication Valley and the west boundary of cemetery along the existing railroad tracks. Species should include black oak, red oak, white oak, white pine, white ash, sugar maple, red maple, pignut hickory, and shagbark hickory. This vegetation is recommended to reestablish the western border and to block views of, and noise, from Interstate Route 81.

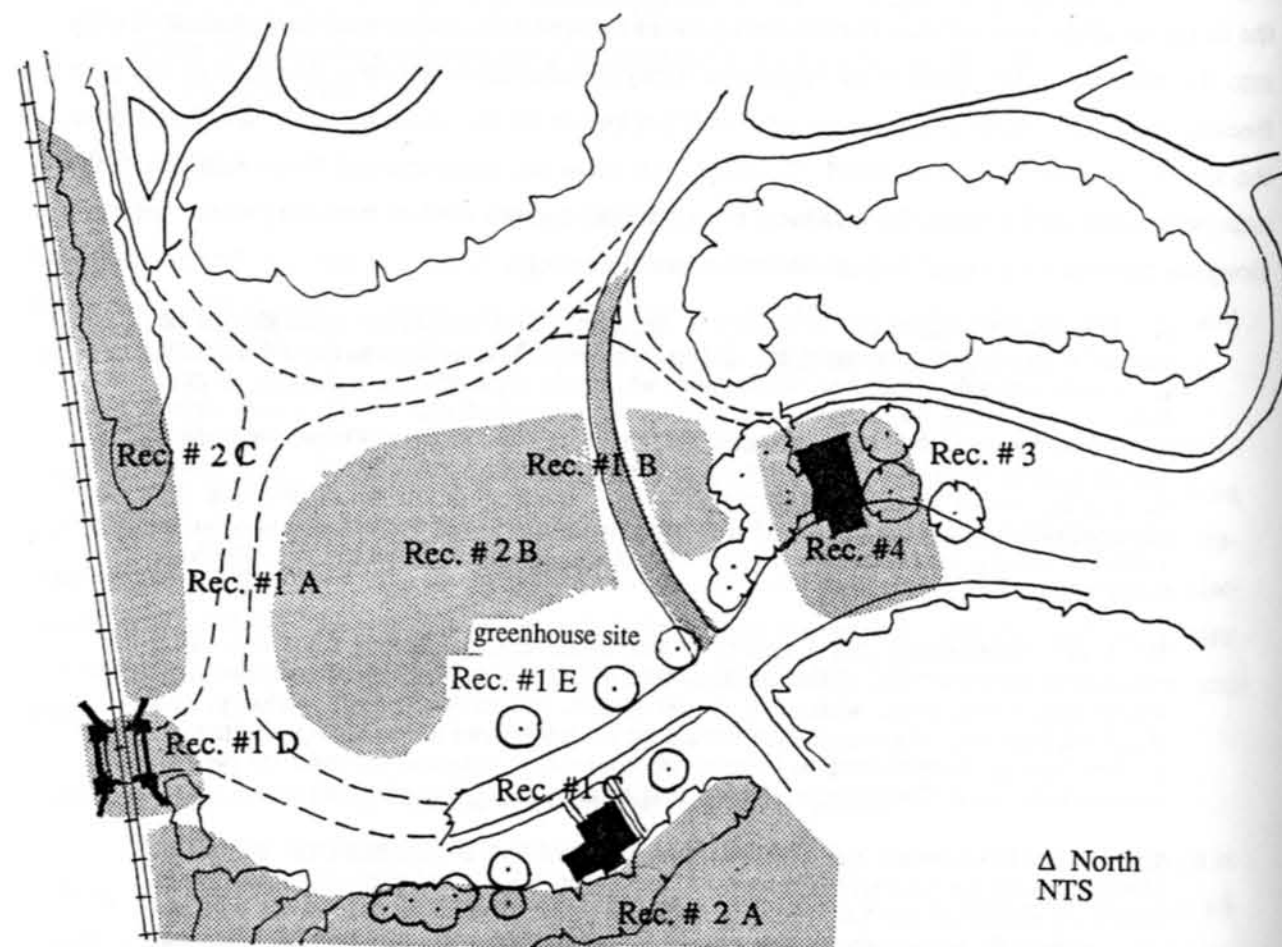


Figure 6.1 Diagram illustrating treatment recommendations for the Entry Area (Day, 1994).

### Recommendation #3: Preservation of 1879 Chapel.

The Chapel, designed in 1879 by the architect Joseph Silsbee, exists in its historic location. There have been no major exterior alterations to the historic resource, and it contributes to the spatial character and interpretation of the cemetery and Entry Area. The Chapel has deteriorated rapidly. With no current use for the Chapel, repairs and maintenance have not been completed.

A. It is recommended that steps be taken to protect and stabilize the structure to deter or minimize further damage. The existing condition should be recorded and evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed.

B. It is recommended that new uses be considered for the Chapel. The chapel's location in the historic entry area make it an ideal location for the Office of the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association. The Chapel could be rehabilitated to accommodate an Office, visitor's center and research center. The Chapel also could house the historic material and archives of the Oakwood Cemetery Association.

### Recommendation #4: Rehabilitation of circulation and entry space associated with the Chapel.

The Chapel was a focal point and special feature of the nineteenth rural cemetery. Historic photographic documentation of the Chapel record a kidney shaped area in front of the Chapel that was planted with a variety of trees and shrubs. Because the exact species of historic vegetation is not known, the rehabilitation of the space is recommended (see figure 6.1).

A. It is recommended that the existing macadam surface surrounding Chapel be removed.

B. It is recommended that a kidney shaped area in front of Chapel and road under the porte-cochere be constructed. The kidney shaped area and road should be edged with curbing that is comparable to historic curbing material. There is existing historic cubing along the road adjacent to the 1902 Office which can be used to determine the size, form and materials of the contemporary curbing.

C. It is recommended that the vegetation of the kidney shaped area be reestablished using photographic documentation. Two spruce trees should be planted at either end of the area according to the photographic documentation and the ground plane should be maintained as turf.

D. It is recommended that the areas on either side of the Chapel be maintained as turf.

E. It is recommended that non-historic plant material around Chapel be removed.



## INNER CORE

The historic character of the Inner Core has been altered. The lack of vegetation and road delineation have altered the spatial organization of the Inner Core. Historically, the woodland areas and vegetation of the Inner Core were an integral part of the nineteenth century cemetery, and the reclamation of the historic character of this area should be considered for interpretation purposes.

The recommendations made for the Inner Core focus on the re-establishment of the spatial organization. The rehabilitation of the spatial organization of the Inner Core requires recommendations for the treatment of circulation and vegetation. The recommendations made for the Inner Core focus on the preservation of features that contribute to the historic character of the cemetery landscape and the removal of features which do not. Vegetation management and rehabilitation of non-existing features also is recommended in order to reestablish the spatial organization of the landscape.

### Recommendation #6: Rehabilitation of the vegetation of the Inner Core and Dedication Valley.

The character of the vegetation in the Inner Core has been altered significantly. The dense woodland character illustrated in the historic period is no longer exists. Vegetation was removed due to decline and the vegetation has not been replaced. This has resulted in a reduction of the woodland density and therefore, a change in the feeling of enclosure.

A. It is recommended that three historic trees be replanted. Three white oak were located along the border of the Longstreet Lot and Dedication Valley. It is recommended that these trees be replaced with trees of the same species. The locations for these new trees should be determined by two existing stumps and by the photographic documentation (see figure 6.2). It is recommended that additional trees be planted throughout the Inner Core to recreate the woodland character that existed historically. Species should include black oak, red oak, white oak, white pine, sugar maple, red maple, white ash, pignut hickory, and shagbark hickory.

B. It is recommended that several shrubs be replaced. The shrubs that are documented in historic photographs add to the variety of plant materials in the cemetery, and contribute to the compositions along Dedication Valley. The location of the shrubs should be estimated from the photographic documentation. One bottlebrush buckeye should be planted at the west edge of Section thirteen.

C. It is recommended that the historic trees on the central island, the baldcypress, Norway spruce, and bottlebrush buckeye be assessed and preserved. It is recommended that the American yellowwood that is in poor condition be removed.

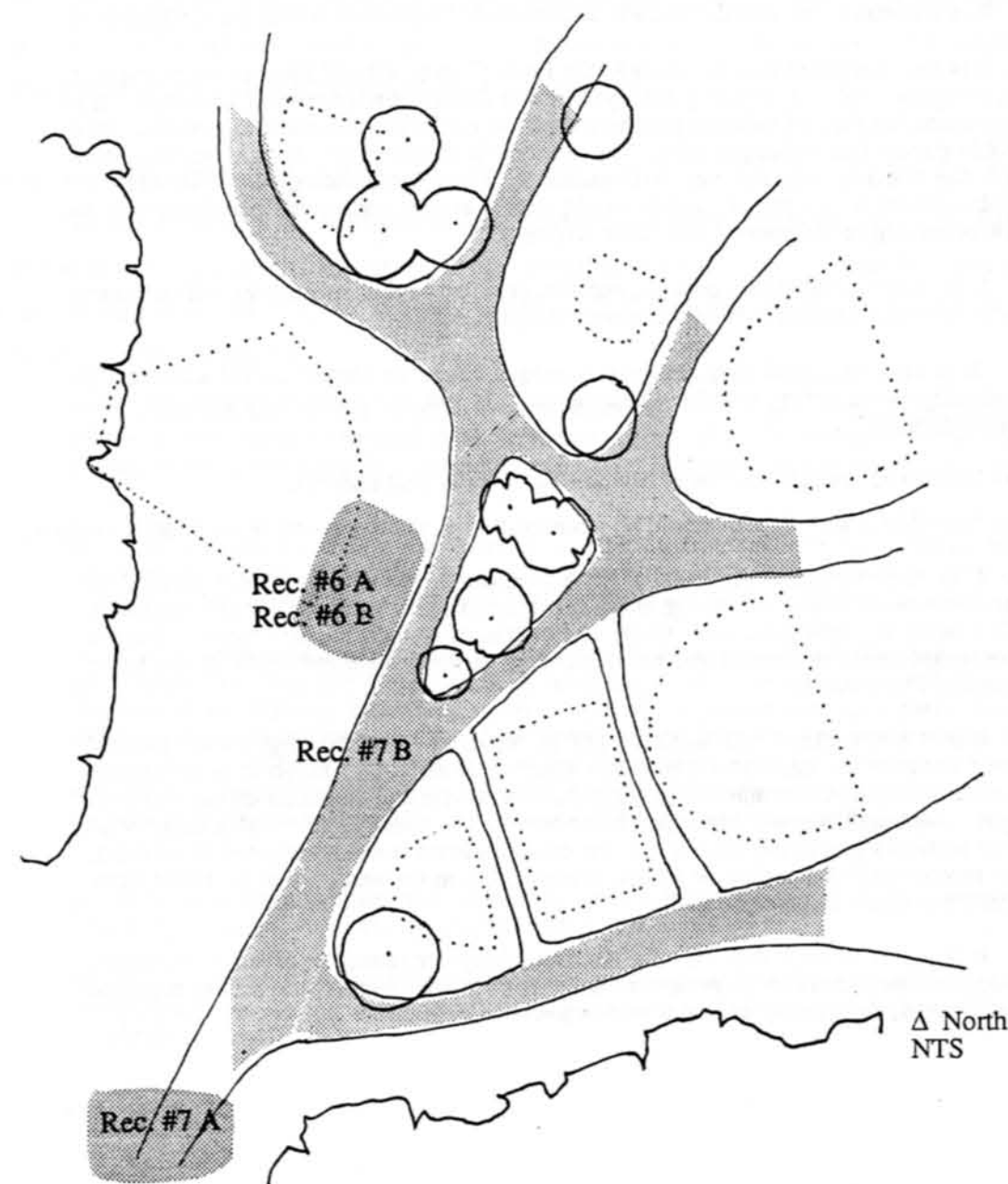


Figure 6.2

Diagram of Inner Core illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).

**Recommendation #7: Rehabilitation of circulation system in the Inner Core.**

The circulation and associated drainage system was a design feature that exhibited the complex nature of Howard Daniels design, and showed his attention to the site's natural systems and features. The circulation system was also an aesthetic feature. The clear delineation of roads separated and emphasized the unique landforms. The existing roads are not clearly defined.

A. It is recommended that the historic alignment of Dedication Valley be reestablished.

B. It is recommended that the roads in the Inner Core be rehabilitated as an example of the complex road and cobble gutter system that existed throughout the cemetery. It is recommended that all existing cobble gutters be preserved and used to construct new cobble gutters that no longer exist. The new cobble gutter system should be compatible with the historic material yet distinguishable from the existing material. The re-establishment of the gutter system would ease drainage and runoff problems that are now occurring on Edgewood and other Avenues.

C. It is recommended that cement, asphalt, or other paving substances not be poured on the historic material in order to solve road purposes.

D. It is recommended that severely damaged roads be closed to vehicular traffic especially in the spring months when the earth is soft and vehicular traffic can cause severe damage.

**Recommendation #9: Rehabilitation of historic furnishing and objects.**

Site furnishings and objects should be replaced for the interpretation of the historic landscape.

A. It is recommended that road signs be replaced. Road signs were located at intersections of roads and along avenues. Historic photographs provide valuable information regarding the size, shape and character of the cast iron signs. Historic photographs also document the exact location of many of these signs in the Inner Core and Entry Area.

B. It is recommended that section signs be replaced. Sections signs were located along the main avenues to identify the number of sections. Historic photographs provide valuable information regarding the size, shape and character of the cast iron signs. Although historic photographs document the exact location of a number of these section signs in the Inner Core, the exact location is not known for all of them. It is recommended that they be placed at a location on the section that is visible from as many avenues as possible.

C. It is recommended that existing site furnishings or remnants of site furnishings throughout the cemetery be preserved and documented. When the signs are replaced these historic features should be stored in a secure location.

**PRIVATELY OWNED LOTS**

Although each privately owned lot has different treatment recommendation, a number of recommendations are applicable to each lot investigated. In order to reestablish the spatial organization of the cemetery landscape the delineation between the privately owned lots and cemetery owned land is recommended. This could be achieved through the definition of historic roads. The roads emphasized the unique shapes and landforms of the sections. Individual lots within each section were organized by secondary paths. It is recommended that the location of secondary paths be interpreted in order to establish this layer of organization.

**Recommendation #10: Rehabilitation of the Gere Lot.**

Several historic photographs record the historic character of the Gere Lot. Although the lot retains much of its historic character, there are several features that do not contribute and therefore should be removed. In order to re-establish the spatial character of the Gere Lot a number of alterations are recommended.

A. It is recommended that invasive vegetation located on the north side of the lot be removed. One boxelder located at the north west corner of the lot should be removed as well as the grape vines that surround the existing northern white-cedar (see figure 6.3).

B. It is recommended that non-historic vegetation from White Oak Avenue be removed in order to interpret the historic road location. It is recommended that five trees be removed: two eastern cottonwood, two boxelder, and one Norway maple.

C. It is recommended that the historic location of the unnamed path that separates the Crouse Lot from the Gere Lot be reestablished. It is recommended that the location of all historic secondary paths on privately owned lots, and paths that separate privately owned lots should be cleared of vegetation. The unnamed path that separates the Gere Lot from the Crouse Lot is obstructed by a large block of stone that has crumbled from the Crouse stairs. This block should be replaced in its original location on the Crouse lot, thus opening the path to north-south access.

D. It is recommended that the secondary path which is located at the eastern boundary of the lot, Harebell, should be cleared of vegetation.

E. It is recommended that steps be taken to preserve each of the monuments and gravemarkers on the lot. Inscriptions of each monument and gravemarker should be recorded.



**Recommendation #11: Rehabilitation of the Hoyt Lot.**

Several historic photographs record the historic character of the Hoyt Lot. The spatial organization of the lot has been altered. In order to re-establish the spatial character of the Hoyt Lot a number of treatments are recommended.

A. It is recommended that the two non-historic honeylocust located on each side of the path at the east side of the lot be removed and that they be replaced with an elm to the north of the entrance and a tulip-tree to the south of the entrance (see figure 6.4).

B. It is recommended that the debris surrounding the lot be removed to uncover the historic stone coping. The stone coping that surrounded the Hoyt Lot and separated the lot from the surrounding roads exists under a layer of debris and soil. The uncovering of the stone coping would recreate the circulation and spatial definition of the lot.

C. It is recommended that the debris and soil be removed from the east side of the lot in order to uncover the stone path. The stone path that led visitors from Central Avenue to the Hoyt arch exists. It is recommended that the soil be removed in order to re-establish the circulation of the lot.

D. It is recommended that two northern white cedars be planted in their historic location in order to re-establish the spatial character of the Hoyt Lot and its prominence at the center of Central Avenue. The historic location of the two evergreens is estimated from documentation in historic photographs.

E. It is recommended that steps be taken to preserve each of the monuments and gravemarkers on the lot. Inscriptions of each monument and gravemarker should be recorded.

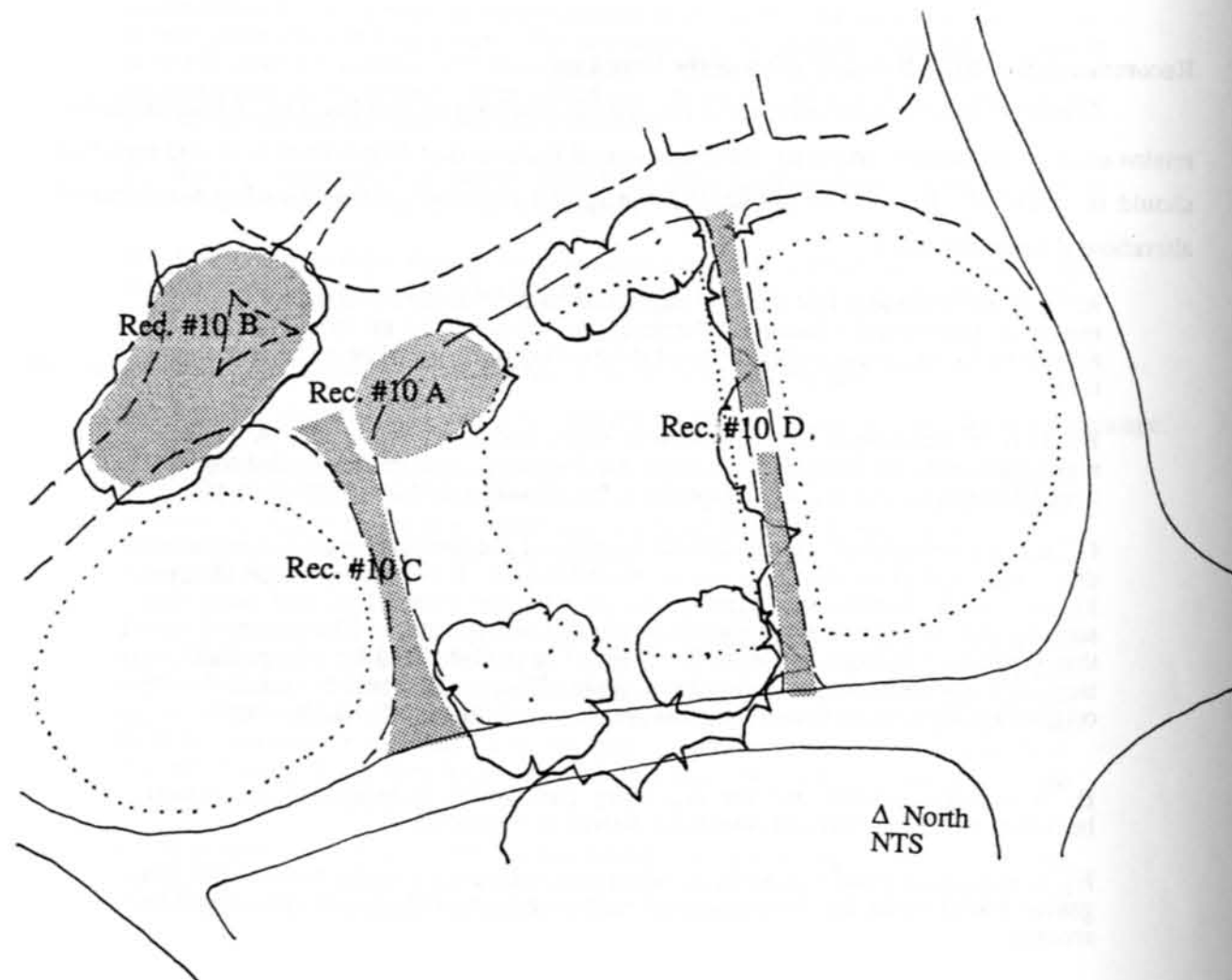


Figure 6.3 Diagram of the Gere Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).

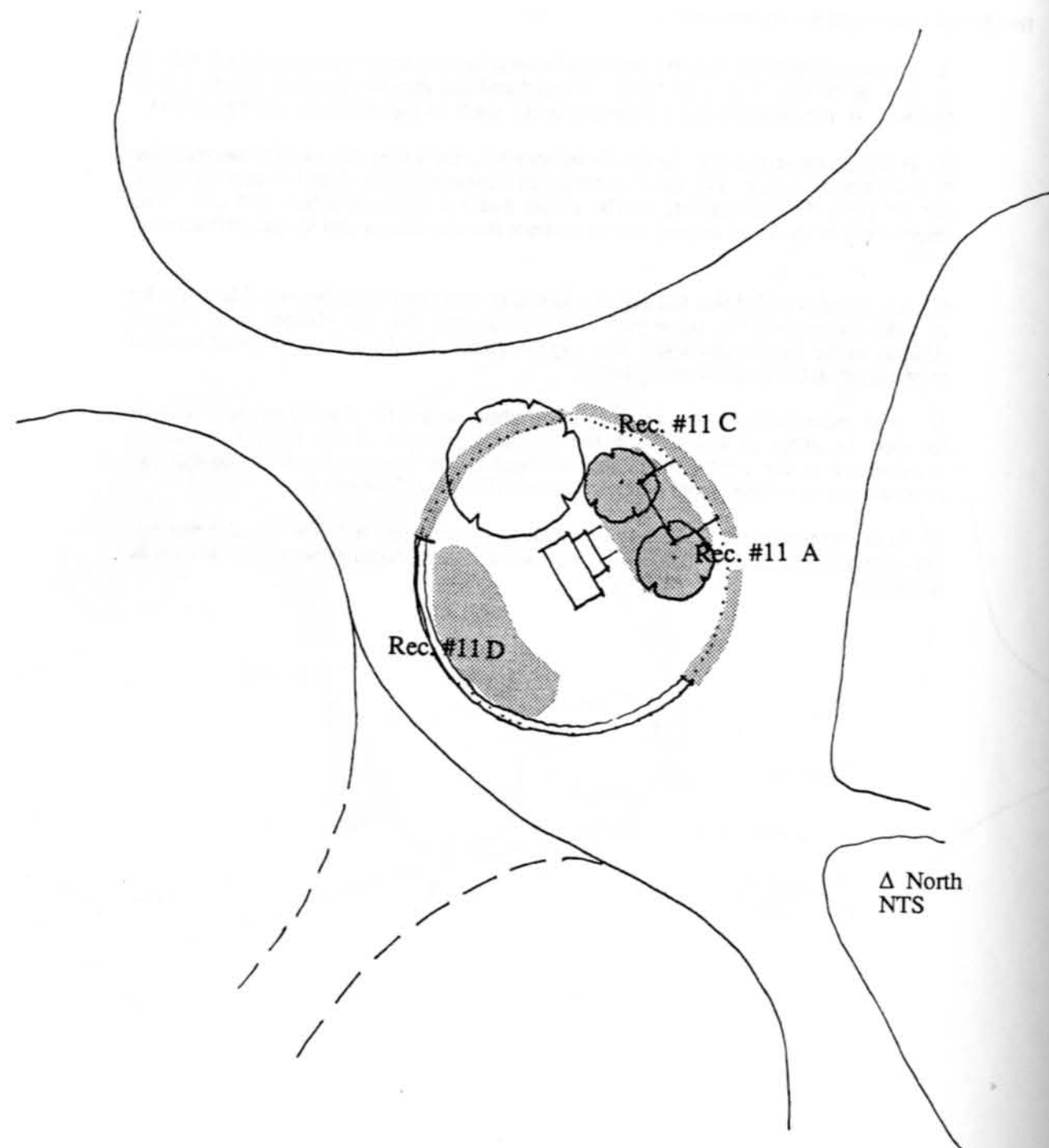


Figure 6.4 Diagram of the Hoyt Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).

### Recommendation #12: Rehabilitation of the Leavenworth Lot.

There are no historic photographs of the Leavenworth Lot that document the historic plant materials or historic character and therefore, the recommendations focus on removal of invasive vegetation and the preservation of existing features.

A. It is recommended that the invasive vegetation be removed from the east boundary of the lot (see figure 6.5).

B. It was recommended in Recommendation #10 B that the five trees in the historic location of White Oak Avenue be removed (see figure 6.3). This recommendation is also integral to the rehabilitation of the Leavenworth Lot by re-establishing the location of White Oak Avenue which served as the northern boundary for the Leavenworth Lot.

C. It is recommended that steps be taken to preserve each of the monuments and gravemarkers on the lot. Inscriptions of each monument and gravemarkers should be recorded.

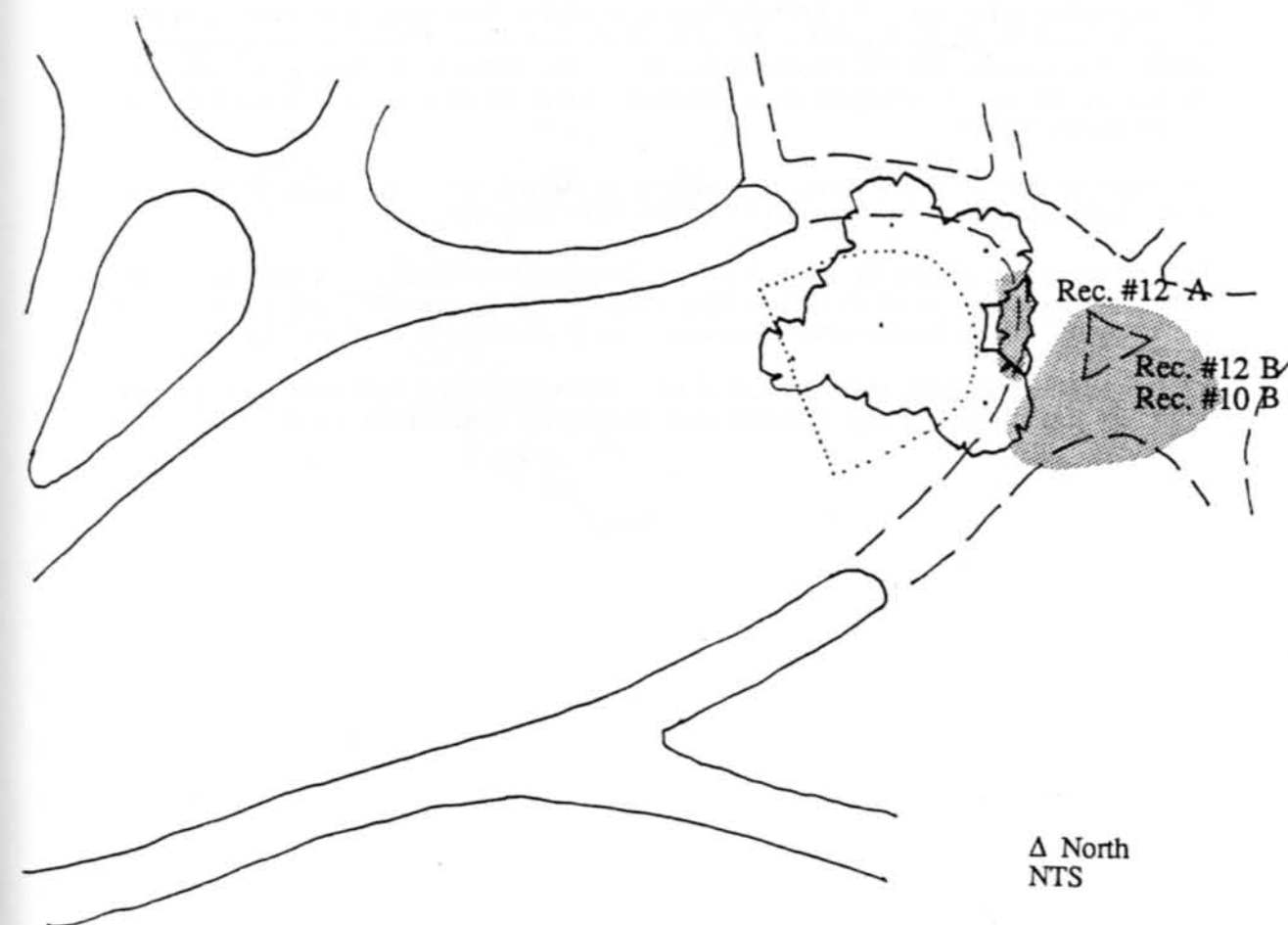


Figure 6.5 Diagram of Leavenworth Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).



**Recommendation #13: Rehabilitation of the Longstreet Lot.**

Several historic photographs record the historic character of the Longstreet Lot. The spatial organization of the lot has been altered by a change in plant material and an absence of defining features. In order to re-establish the spatial character of the Hoyt Lot a number of treatments are recommended.

A. It is recommended that five non-historic trees be removed: one American yellowwood, located at the rear of the tomb, three tree-of-heaven, located to the north of the tomb, and one tree-of-heaven, located south of the tomb (see figure 6.6).

B. It is recommended that the historic vegetation along border of Longstreet Lot be re-established. It is recommended that four white oak be planted. Two of the four trees can be planted at the location of existing stumps. The other two are located according to photographic documentation. The other three white oak that were located on the cemetery owned land along Dedication Valley were recommended to be replaced in Recommendation #6A for the Inner Core (see figure 6.3).

C. It is recommended that the existing hostas located at the rear of the Longstreet Lot be relocated to their historic position as documented in historic photographs (see figure 5.46). The vegetation at the rear of the lot historically consisted of three hostas planted on each side of the stone path, and one located in the center of the two paths. Currently two hostas exist inside the two paths. It is recommended that the one Hosta that is not in the proper location be divided, and the two plants be planted on either side of the paths in the location recorded in historic photographs.

D. It is recommended that the existing stone spheres that historically delineated the boundary between the cemetery owned land and the private lot be preserved.

E. It is recommended that the debris and soil be removed in order to uncover the stone path. The stone path that led visitors from Pine Ridge to the Longstreet Tomb exists. It is recommended that the soil be removed in order to re-establish the circulation of the lot.

F. It is recommended that steps be taken to preserve the Longstreet Tomb and gravemarkers on the lot. Inscriptions of each monument and gravemarker should be recorded.

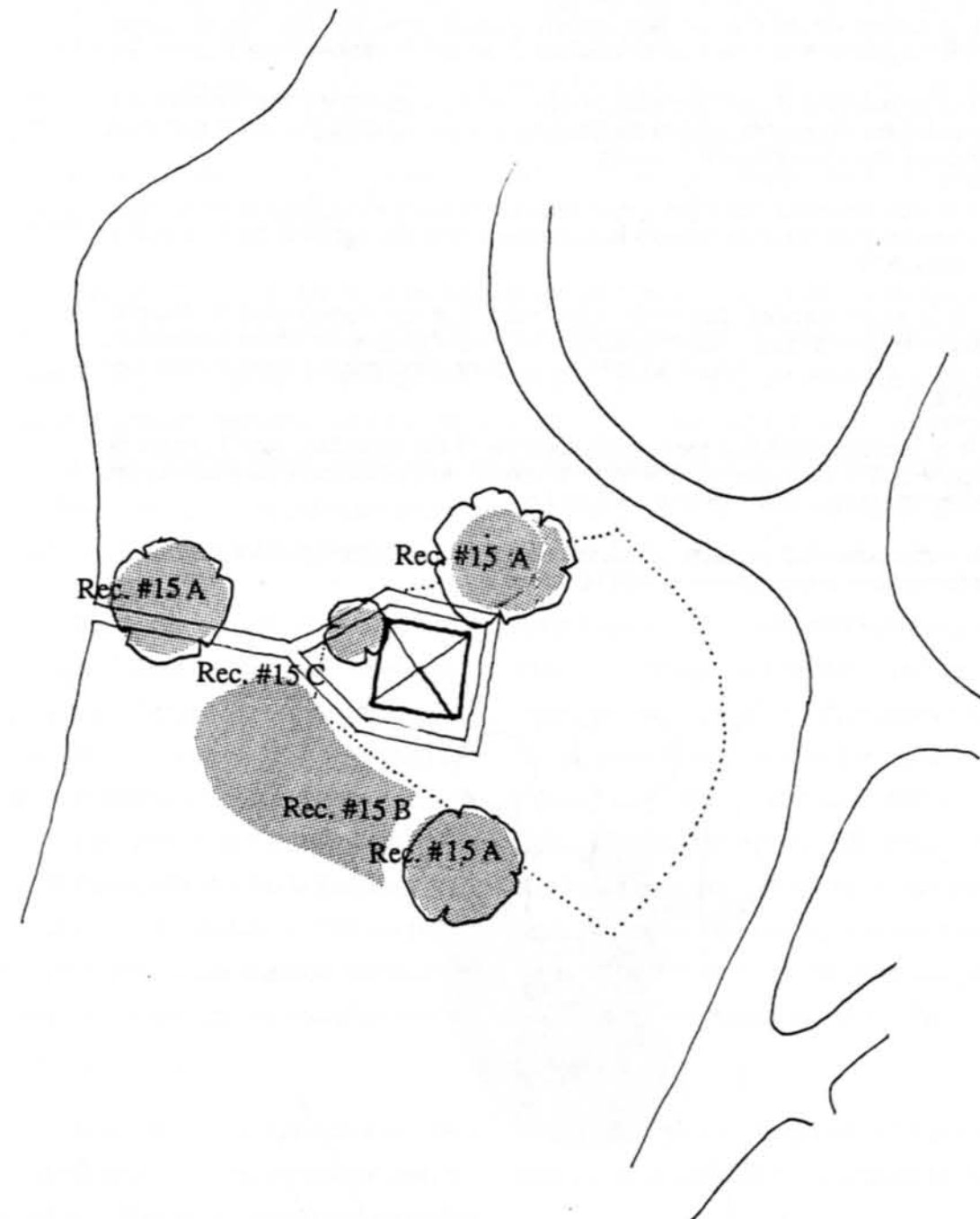


Figure 6.6 Diagram of Longstreet Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).

**Recommendation # 14: Rehabilitation of the Myers Lot.**

Several historic photographs record the historic character of the Myers Lot. The spatial organization of the lot has been altered by a change in plant material. In order to re-establish the spatial character of the Myers Lot a number of treatments are recommended.

- A. It is recommended that two non-historic trees be removed. One horsechestnut and one mugo pine to the west of the mausoleum should be removed (see figure 6.7).
- B. It is recommended that the historic location of the stone coping and stairway that surrounded the Myers Mausoleum be located. If the stone coping or stairs still exist remove soil to uncover the site features.
- C. It is recommended that eight spruce trees be replaced along Serpentine Avenue. The exact location for these spruces is determined from photographic documentation (see figure 6.7).
- D. It is recommended that eight white oaks that are documented in historic photographs be replaced. Existing stumps are available to locate three white oaks. Five white oaks will be planted according to historic photograph documentation (see figure 6.7).
- E. It is recommended that the historic location of the secondary path Verbena be interpreted. The path connected Serpentine Avenue to Dedication Valley and helped to define the spatial character of the Myers Lot.
- F. It is recommended that steps be taken to preserve the Myers Mausoleum. Inscriptions on the mausoleum should be recorded.

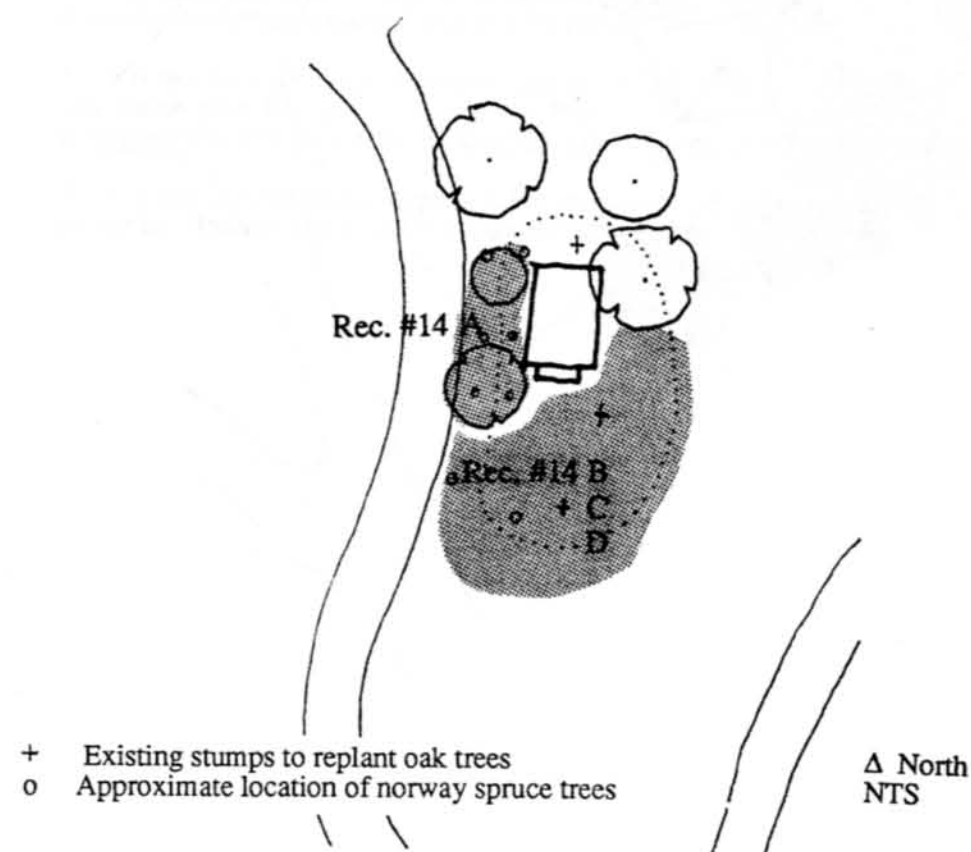


Figure 6.7 Diagram of Myers Lot illustrating treatment recommendations (Day, 1994).

**Recommendations for Further Study**

Upon completion of this report, it is apparent that although Oakwood Cemetery retains much of its historic character, alterations due to deterioration and vandalism continue to impact the cemetery landscape. This report is a first step towards the protection of the three prototype areas in the historic cemetery: the Entry Area, the Inner Core, and the five privately owned lots. What should the next step be, and what roles should the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association and the Oakwood Cemetery Association have in the next stages? This section addresses these concerns and provides a course of action for the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association and the Oakwood Cemetery Association.

The entire eighty-two acres of the original cemetery parcel was not studied for this report due to two major limitations of this study. The lack of a base map with topographic information and location of major landscape features, and the size of the cemetery made assessing the topography and locating vegetation impossible for the entire cemetery. It was decided to examine a variety of areas within the cemetery that were important to the nineteenth century rural cemetery. Thus, the Entry Area, Inner Core and five privately owned lots were completed as prototype areas to provide an opportunity to discuss a variety of landscape features representative of the larger historic cemetery.

It is hoped that this partial Cultural Landscape Report will provide information regarding the landscape features of Oakwood, and provide a format for continued study for the rest of the cemetery. A base map of thirty-three acres (of the original eighty-two acre parcel) which includes topographic information, location of major vegetation and major monuments was completed in April, 1994. This base information will provide the opportunity to perform an existing conditions assessment of the thirty-three acres (which includes the three prototype areas of this report). All landscape features used in this report should be assessed. Of specific importance are topography, vegetation, spatial organization and circulation. This existing conditions assessment, the historic research compiled for this report and additional historic research of the lands outside of the prototype areas will provide the information necessary for complete treatment/management recommendations for the thirty-three acres.

If the existing conditions assessment for the thirty-three acre area cannot be completed as described above, it is recommended that, at a minimum, an assessment of vegetation in the area be completed. Specific recommendations include:

1. The professional assessment of trees and shrubs to address age, condition and maintenance issues;
2. The development of a vegetation maintenance program, including trees and shrubs in order to preserve existing vegetation and provide guidance for replacement of vegetation; and,



3. The development of a procedure for recording maintenance and planting in order to document additions and alterations to the landscape.

It is also strongly recommended that a base map be completed for the rest of the one hundred and twenty-six acres, or at least the forty-nine acres of the original cemetery parcel, so a Cultural Landscape Report for the entire cemetery can be completed. The base map for the entire cemetery would be an important tool in both recording the existing condition, as well as studying the topography and development of the landscape.

The Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association has been a source of funding and support for the historic cemetery. There are several recommendations made for the three prototype areas that can be completed by both the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association and the Oakwood Cemetery Association. These recommendations include the removal and replacement of vegetation, curb and sidewalk preservation, and protection of existing furnishings on privately owned lots (e.g. uncovering stone coping surrounding Hoyt Lot). Other recommendations, such as the rehabilitation of topography in the Entry Area, reconstruction of roads, and the removal of non-historic roads are part of the long term plan for the cemetery. It is recommended that HOCPA and the Oakwood Cemetery Association begin with the Vegetation replacement and removal recommendations in the three prototype areas. Prior to completion of these recommendations a vegetation removal plan and a vegetation replacement plan should be completed:

1. Vegetation Removal Plan:

The removal of vegetation is recommended in this report. Vegetation to be removed includes mature vegetation that does not contribute to the historic character of the site and invasive vegetation that has spread into areas where it was never planted. It is recommended that first, all vegetation be identified prior to removal, and second, a plan be developed to ensure that invasive or weed species will not return. It is recommended that professional advice be sought for individual treatment of each species removed for correct procedure.

2. Vegetation Replacement Plan:

The replacement of vegetation is recommended for several privately owned lots, the Entry Area, and the Inner Core. It is important that the species of tree or shrub be selected with professional advice, and that the correct species is selected. The planting plan should be developed for all vegetation added to the study area. This plan should detail how trees are to be planted in stump locations (e.g. adjacent to stump or remove stump). The plan also should detail the process for recording information on vegetation and replacement.

## Conclusion

Oakwood Cemetery is a unique designed landscape worthy of study on its own, but it is also an example of the rural cemetery movement which began with the development of Mount Auburn Cemetery in 1831. Rural cemeteries played an important role in the urban park movement in the United States; they were the first American landscapes to provide contained, natural settings for urban dwellers of the nineteenth century.

The landscape of Oakwood Cemetery embodies the rural cemetery movement. Howard Daniels's design for Oakwood in 1859 combined the landform and existing vegetation with circulation and organization of lots to create a unique landscape. Since its development in 1859, the cemetery landscape has undergone one major period of development. Starting in 1879, when the Chapel was constructed, and ending in 1902, when the Gate and Bridge, Office, Greenhouse and Superintendent's house were constructed. Since that period of major development, the cemetery has experienced only three major alterations: the removal of the greenhouse in 1945, and the construction of Interstate Route 81 in 1964, and the removal of the ridge formation in the Entry Area in 1983. The Entry Area is the area most affected by the changes, while the landscape of the cemetery as a whole has experience few alterations. Today, the majority of the cemetery retains its historic character and many historic features.

While the study of the three prototype areas, the Entry Area, the Inner Core, and five privately owned lots, uncovered the extent of change to areas in the cemetery landscape, it also uncovered the extent to which the historic character continues to exist in the cemetery landscape as a whole. The study also furthered the understanding of the organization of the cemetery as a designed landscape. This partial cultural landscape report should provide guidance for the continued protection and management of Oakwood Cemetery.

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## ENDNOTES

### Introduction

- 1 U. S. Department of the Interior. *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places*. The bulletin was completed by the Interagency Resources Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1992, 29.
- 2 U. S. Department of the Interior. *National Register Bulletin 15: How to apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. The bulletin was completed by the Interagency Resources Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1990, revised 1991, 2.
- 3 Lozner, Christine. "A Walking Guide to Historic Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, New York, Est. 1859.", Syracuse, New York. Photocopy.
- 4 U. S. Department of the Interior. *National Register Bulletin 16A: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*. The bulletin was completed by the Interagency Resources Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1991, Appendix IV: 3.
- 5 This list was adapted from a list developed by Professor George W. Curry, Regina M. Bellavia, and David Uschold, Research Assistants, Faculty of Landscape Architecture, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, after careful analysis and discussion of existing reference materials regarding the documentation of landscape features. They were developed in an attempt to create a list of landscape features to document the character-defining features of various types of landscapes, specifically for use in cultural landscape reports. The complete list of landscape categories that were developed and the list of materials that were analyzed to create the list of landscape features are included in Appendix A: Landscape Features.
- 6 U. S. Department of the Interior. *National Register Bulletin 15: How to apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. The bulletin was completed by the Interagency Resources Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1990, revised 1991, 44.
- 7 U. S. Department of the Interior. *National Register Bulletin 24: Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis For Preservation Planning*. The bulletin was completed by the Interagency Resources Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1977. Revised by P. L. Parker, 1985, 45.
- 8 Ibid.
- 9 U. S. Department of the Interior. *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*. The pamphlet was prepared by the Preservation Assistance Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1992.

### Chapter One

- 10 Naomi R. Remes, "The Rural Cemetery," *Nineteenth Century* 5, no. 4 (Winter 1979): 54.
- 11 David Schuyler, "The Evolution of the Anglo-American Rural Cemetery: Landscape Architecture as Social and Cultural History," *Journal of Garden History* 4, no. 3 (1979): 91.
- 12 David Schuyler, *The New American Landscape: the Redefinition of City Form in Nineteenth-Century America*, (Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986), 40.



- 13 Schuyler, "The Evolution of the Anglo-American Rural Cemetery: Landscape Architecture as Social and Cultural History," 294.
- 14 Ibid., 295.
- 15 Barbara Rotundo, "The Rural Cemetery Movement," *Essex Institute Historical Collections* 109 (July 1973): 231.
- 16 Ibid., 233.
- 17 Ibid.
- 18 Remes, "The Rural Cemetery," 52.
- 19 Quoted in Stanley French, "The Cemetery as Cultural Institution: The Establishment of Mount Auburn and the 'Rural Cemetery' Movement," *American Quarterly* 26 (March 1974): 40.
- 20 Remes, "The Rural Cemetery," 51.
- 21 Ibid.
- 22 David Stannard, "The Brief, Sentimental Age of the Rural Cemetery," *American Quarterly* 30, no. 3 (August-September): 45.
- 23 Schuyler, "The Evolution of the Anglo-American Rural Cemetery: Landscape Architecture as Social and Cultural History," 292.
- 24 Remes, "The Rural Cemetery," 54.
- 25 Schuyler, "The Evolution of the Anglo-American Rural Cemetery: Landscape Architecture as Social and Cultural History," 292.
- 26 Marie Louise Simo, *Loudon and the Landscape: From Country Seat to Metropolis 1783-1843*, (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1988), 50.
- 27 Ann Leighton, *The Nineteenth Century Garden*, (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1987), 164.
- 28 Ibid.
- 29 Schuyler, "The Evolution of the Anglo-American Rural Cemetery: Landscape Architecture as Social and Cultural History," 294.
- 30 Margetta Darnell, "The American Cemetery as Picturesque Landscape," *Winterthur Portfolio* 18, no. 4 (Winter 1983): 249.
- 31 Darnell, "The American Cemetery as Picturesque Landscape," 250.
- 32 David Schuyler, "The Evolution of the Anglo-American Rural Cemetery: Landscape Architecture as Social and Cultural History," 294.
- 33 Ibid., 203-204.
- 34 Schuyler, *The New American Landscape: the Redefinition of City Form in Nineteenth Century America*, 2.

- 35 Ibid., 205.
- 36 Ibid., 160.
- 37 Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, *Report on the Landscape Architects and Superintendents to the President of the Board of Commissioners of Prospect Park*, Brooklyn (1868), reprinted in *Landscape Into Cityscape: Frederick Law Olmsted's Plan for a Greater New York City*, Albert Fein, Editor (Ithaca, New York, 1967), 160.
- 38 Bender, "The Rural Cemetery: Urban Travail and the Appeal of Nature," 207.
- 39 A. J. Downing, "Public Cemeteries and Public Gardens," *The Horticulturist* 4 (July 1849), 11.
- 40 Ibid.
- 41 Quoted in Bender, "The Urban Travail and the Appeal of Nature," 298.
- 42 Elisha Huntington, Address of the Mayor of the City of Lowell, on the organization of the government, April 7, 1845 (Lowell, 1845), 14-16.
- 43 Ibid.

## Chapter Two

- 44 U.S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination, Prepared for the National Park Service by Barbara Ebert and Chris Lozner, (Washington, D.C.: 1990).
- 45 City of Syracuse, Reconaissance Level Survey of Historical Resources, Prepared for the City of Syracuse by Sturgeon King, (Syracuse, NY: 1992), 7.
- 46 U.S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination, Prepared for the National Park Service by Barbara Ebert and Chris Lozner, (Washington, D.C.: 1990).
- 47 U.S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination.
- 48 City of Syracuse, Reconaissance Level Survey of Historical Resources, 7.
- 49 U.S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination.
- 50 H. P. Smith, *History of Oakwood Cemetery*, (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871), .
- 51 U.S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination.
- 52 "The Proposed Rural Cemetery," *Standard*, 11 August 1857.
- 53 Biographical information regarding the original trustees came from a number of sources including the clipping files on each of these individuals located at the Onondaga Historical Association, Syracuse, New York, and Jack Carpenter, *Street Wise: A Colorful Look at the Avenues of Syracuse* (Jamesville: Pine Grove Press, 1991).
- 54 Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, *Minute Books 1859-1950*.

- 55 Ibid.
- 56 Christine Lozner, of the Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association, has conducted a great deal of research into Hoaward Daniels's life and career.
- 57 *The Horticulturist*, 19 (February 1864): 71.
- 58 H. P. Smith, *History of Oakwood Cemetery*, 61.
- 59 Ibid., 36.
- 60 H. P. Smith, *History of Oakwood Cemetery*, (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871), Annie Maltbie, *Picturesue Oakwood*, (Syracuse: Fred S. Hills, Publisher, 1894), and Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, *Minute Books 1859-1950*.
- 61 Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, *Minute Books 1859-1950*. The total amount spent in 1859 according to the deeds and the minute book is \$24,500. The expenditures sheet also records \$24,500 for real estate in 1859.
- 62 *Post Standard*, 10 August 1857.
- 63 U. S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination, 28.
- 64 Howard Daniels, [Instructions prepared for the Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, 1860].
- 65 Smith, *History of Oakwood Cemetery*, 13.
- 66 Ibid.
- 67 Ibid., 35.
- 68 U.S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination, 28.
- 69 United States Geological Survey, Syracuse West, 1978.
- 70 U. S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory- Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination.
- 71 Ibid.
- 72 Other resources that have been used to determine planting designs are Daniels's Instructions for Accounts (see Appendix D), historic documentation, the Expenditures Sheet for Oakwood Cemetery (see Appendix B), Receipts Sheet for Oakwood Cemetery (see Appendix C), period newspaper accounts, and the Rules and Regulations of the Oakwood Cemetery (see Appendix E).
- 73 *Post Standard*, 10 August 1857.
- 74 David Schuyler, *The New Urban Landscape: The Redefinition of City Form in Nineteenth-Century America*, 113.
- 75 Ibid.

- 76 Ibid.
- 77 Ibid.
- 78 *Currier*, 31 October 1869.
- 79 Schuyler, *The New Urban Landscape: The Redefinition of City Form in Nineteenth-Century America*, 111-112.
- 80 U.S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination.
- 81 Ebert and Lozner site the Syracuse Nurseries in the 1991 Nomination Form for Oakwood Cemetery. The records for the Syracuse Nurseries were researched at the Onondaga Histocial Society and there were no records of purchases, customers, or documentation of that matter available.
- 82 Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries, *Ledger Book*. The Ledger books of the Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries list customers in alphabetical order followed by the page numbers their accounts are recorded. The first ledger book records the business from 1850-1862. Oakwood Cemetery is not listed as a customer, although Elias Leavenworth is. There are several purchases recorded under the "Honorable E. W. Leavenworth of Syracuse, New York", the first being April 21, 1859. Unfortunately the ledger does not record what was purchased, but only the amount spent, date of order, and date of payment. Mr. Leavenworth's spent \$2.50 on April 21, 1859. In 1860 he made two purchases totaling \$6.30. (see appendix E) Howard Daniels was not listed in this ledger, nor was George Gardener, the cemetery superintendent. They were not listed in the 1850-1862 ledger, 1863-1867 ledger, or the 1869-1871 ledger.
- 83 Onondaga Historical Association clipping file. J. P. Haskin. *Journal*, February 3, 1873.
- 84 Ann Leighton, *American Gardens of the Nineteenth Century*, (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1987), 101.
- 85 Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, *Minute Books 1859-1950, Rules and Regulations*.
- 86 Ibid.
- 87 Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, *Minute Books 1859-1950, Rules and Regulations*.
- 88 Linden-Ward, Blanche. *Silent City on a Hill: Landscapes of Memory and Boston's Mount Auburn Cemetery*, (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 1989).
- 89 "Rural Cemeteries, No. 3 Conclusion," *The Horticulturist* 6 (August 1856), 345.
- 90 Ibid., 442.
- 91 M. P. Brazill, *Modern Cemeteries: A Selection of Papers Read Before The Annual Meeting of the Association of American Cemetery Superintendents*, (Chicago: A.A.C.S., 1898), 145.
- 92 This definition for spatial organization was developed by Professor George W. Curry, Regina M. Bellavia, and David Uschold, Research Assistants, Faculty of Landscape Architecture, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, after careful analysis and discussion of existing reference materials regarding the documentation of landscape features.
- 93 Howard Daniels, "Villa Parks," *The Horticulturist* (November 1858), 495.
- 94 Howard Daniels, "A Public Park for Baltimore," *The Horticulturist* 10 (September 1860), 437.



- 95 Ibid., 35.
- 96 Smith, *History of Oakwood Cemetery*, 61.
- 97 U. S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination.
- 98 Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery, *Minute Books 1859-1950*.
- 99 In some cases it is impossible to date the photographs although the construction dates of the buildings and the 1902 Gate and Bridge provide general dates for most of the photographs.
- 100 U. S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory- Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination.
- 101 Ibid., 10
- 102 The basis for documentaiton of historic vegetation was based on evaluation of historic photographs. Associate Professor Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse New York made identifications based on plant growth habit, leaf size, and structure. In cases where applicable, existing vegetation was used to positively identify species in historic photographs.
- 103 Ibid.
- 104 Ibid.
- 105 Ibid.
- 106 *Journal*, 2 August 1873. Onondaga Historical Association.
- 107 Ibid. Onondaga Historical Association.
- 108 *Journal*, 14 August 1874. Onondaga Historical Association.
- 109 *Journal*, no date, 1880. Onondaga Historical Association.
- 110 *Journal*, 13 April 1900. Onondaga Historical Association.
- 111 The use of the term invasive, in this report is applied to vegetation that was not intentionally planted. Species include boxelder (*Acer negundo*) and twining honeysuckle (*Lonicera sp.*).
- 112 U. S. Department of the Interior. *National Register Bulletin 24: Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis For Preservation Planning*. The bulletin was completed by the Interagency Resources Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1977. Revised by P. L. Parker, 1985, 45.
- 113 Ibid.
- 114 U. S. Department of the Interior, National Register of Historic Places Inventory- Oakwood Cemetery Historic Site Nomination.
- 115 Ibid., 10
- 116 Smith, *A History of Oakwood*, 65.

- 117 Ibid.
- 118 The Redfield lot to the west of Dedication Valley and the White lot to the east were visible in the photograph and the deed book shows that they were purchased in the fall of 1860 .
- 119 The basis for documentaiton of historic vegetation was based on evaluation of historic photographs. Associate Professor Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse New York made identifications based on plant growth habit, leaf size, and structure. In cases where applicable, existing vegetation was used to positively identify species in historic photographs.
- 120 Ibid.
- 121 Ibid.
- 122 Associate Professor Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse New York identified the existing stumps to be oaks based on the field analysis and period photographs.
- 123 U. S. Department of the Interior. *National Register Bulletin 24: Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis For Preservation Planning*. The bulletin was completed by the Interagency Resources Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1977. Revised by P. L. Parker, 1985, 45.
- 124 U. S. Department of the Interior. *National Register Bulletin 24: Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis For Preservation Planning*. The bulletin was completed by the Interagency Resources Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1977. Revised by P. L. Parker, 1985, 45.
- 125 Conversation with Associate Professor Donald Leopold, State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, New York.
- 126 Standard. November 7 1859. Courtesy of Onondaga Historical Society.
- 127 Quoted in Shary Page Berg, "Mount Auburn Cemetery: Master Plan, Volume II, Historic Landscape Report", Boston, Massachusetts. Spiral bound photocopy, 9.
- 128 William Beauchamp, *Past and Present of Syracuse and Onondaga County New York*, (Vol II. NY and Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co. 1908).
- 129 H. P. Smith, *History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871), 62.
- 130 The basis for documentaiton of historic vegetation was based on evaluation of historic photographs. Associate Professor Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse New York made identifications based on plant growth habit, leaf size, and structure. In cases where applicable, existing vegetation was used to positively identify species in historic photographs.
- 131 The basis for documentaiton of historic vegetation was based on evaluation of historic photographs. Associate Professor Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse New York made identifications based on plant growth habit, leaf size, and structure. In cases where applicable, existing vegetation was used to positively identify species in historic photographs.
- 132 The basis for documentaiton of historic vegetation was based on evaluation of historic photographs. Associate Professor Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse New York made identifications based on plant growth



## APPENDIX A

### Landscape Features

- habit, leaf size, and structure. In cases where applicable, existing vegetation was used to positively identify species in historic photographs.
- 133 Ibid., 18.
  - 134 H. P. Smith, *History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871), 71.
  - 135 Record of W. E. Hoyt's purchases at Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries, Rochester, N.Y. (Papers of Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries, Volumes 103, 104. , Rare Collections, Rochester University).
  - 136 H. P. Smith, *History of Oakwood Cemetery* (Syracuse: H. P. Smith & Co., 1871).
  - 137 Blanch Linden-Ward. *Silent City on a Hill: Landscapes of Memory and Boston's Mount. Auburn Cemetery*. (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 1989), 6.
  - 138 The basis for documentaiton of historic vegetation was based on evaluation of historic photographs. Associate Professor Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse New York made identifications based on plant growth habit, leaf size, and structure. In this case, stumps existing along Dedication Valley were identified as oak stumps.
  - 139 The basis for documentaiton of historic vegetation was based on evaluation of historic photographs. Associate Professor Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse New York made identifications based on plant growth habit, leaf size, and structure. In cases where applicable, existing vegetation was used to positively identify species in historic photographs.
  - 140 Lozner, Christine. "A Walking Guide to Historic Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, New York, Est. 1859.", Syracuse, New York. Photocopy.
  - 141 The basis for documentaiton of historic vegetation was based on evaluation of historic photographs. Associate Professor Dr. Donald Leopold of the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse New York made identifications based on plant growth habit, leaf size, and structure. In cases where applicable, existing vegetation was used to positively identify species in historic photographs.

#### Chapter Six: Treatment Recommendations

- 142 U. S. Department of Interior. "The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties." The pamphlet was prepared by the Preservation Assistance Division of the National Park Service, U. S. Department of Interior, 1992.

## Landscape Features

Professor George W. Curry and research assistants David Uschold and Regina Bellevia, Faculty of Landscape Architecture, State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, developed a list of landscape features to document character-defining features of various types of landscapes, specifically for use in cultural landscape reports. The list of character-defining landscape features was developed after an analysis of the existing material regarding landscape features and elements.

**Christine Capella Peters**, "The Physical Treatment of Cultural and Historic Resources: Guidelines for Rehabilitating Designed Historic Landscapes" (Master's thesis, SUNY CESF, 1990), 59.

**U.S. Department of Interior**. *Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) Draft User Manual For Field Testing In FY 1992*. The draft was prepared by the Park Historic Architecture Division, National Park Service, Department of Interior, Washington, DC, 1992.

**U.S. Department of Interior**. *Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Landscapes*. The draft was prepared by the Preservation Assistance Division, Technical Preservation Services Branch of the National Park Service, Department of Interior, Washington, DC, May 1992.

The landscape features list, as prepared by Curry, Uschold, and Bellavie is included in its entirety. This list was used in the Cultural Landscape Report for Oakwood Cemetery in order to organize the discussion of landscape features for each prototype area. The landscape features include:

**Environment** – the general external influences affecting the historic landscape, the off-site larger physical and visual context which contains or encompasses the historic landscape.

**Natural** – the natural physical form and features of the surrounding environment that has or does directly affect the historic landscape (major landforms, ridges/valleys, vegetation, water bodies, wetlands, etc.).

**Socio/Cultural** – the general human overlay on the physical form of the surrounding environment that has or does directly affect the historic landscape (general land use, zoning, legal restrictions, transportation, utilities, population, political jurisdiction—state, county, city, village, town, etc.).

**Setting** – the most immediate physical and visual context for the historic landscape (property limits, adjacent property, land use, etc.).

**Natural Systems and Features** – the natural aspects of the landscape often, during the process of manipulating the landscape, have a direct effect on the resultant form. Different from the natural context of the "Environment" section, "Natural Systems & Features" pertains to aspects of the historic landscape that are on the site or directly adjacent to it. The following natural aspects may be relevant to the historic landscape:

**Physiography** – the large scale physical forms and patterns of the historic landscape (hill, plateau, ravine, drumlin, etc.).

**Topography** – the inextractable framework of the historic landscape; the three dimensional configuration of the earth surface characterized by features (ground slope, configuration of contours, visual forms, etc.) and orientation (elevation, solar aspect, etc.) of the historic landscape.

**Geology** – the history and physical nature of the surficial characteristics of the historic landscape (soils, rocks, structure, etc.).

**Hydrology** – the cycles and distribution of surface and subsurface water of the historic landscape (aquifers, drainage patterns, water bodies, water tables, etc.).

**Ecology** – the relationships of living organisms and their environment in the historic landscape (plant associations, wildlife habitat, etc.).

**Climate** – the prevailing weather conditions of the historic landscape (precipitation, sun, temperature, wind, etc.).

**Buildings and Structures** – the elements built primarily for sheltering any form of human activity are buildings (houses, barns, garages, stables, etc.) and the functional elements constructed for purposes other than sheltering human activity are structures (bridges, windmills, gazebos, silos, dams, etc.). Included in this category are mechanical and engineering systems.

**Mechanical Systems** – the features and materials which combine to provide utility service to the historic landscape (power lines, hydrants, culverts, etc.).

**Site Engineering Systems** – the systems and individual features which provide a physically stabilizing factor to all or a portion of the historic landscape (retaining walls, dikes, foundations, etc.).

**Vegetation** – the individual and associated deciduous or evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers and herbaceous materials, whether indigenous or introduced. A major component of a constantly changing historic landscape (specimen tree, hedge, forest, orchard, bosquet, vegetable garden, agricultural field, perennial bed, etc.).

**Spatial Organization** – the structure or order of the historic landscape; the three dimensional organization of physical and visual associations. The organization of elements creating the base, vertical and overhead plane define and create spaces. The functional and visual relationship between these spaces is integral to the character of the historic landscape (open space, enclosed space, corridor space, etc.). Views and vistas are included in this category as an element of the spatial organization of the historic landscape.

**Views and Vistas** – the features that create or allow a view (natural, uncontrolled) or a vista (a controlled, designed feature). The views or vistas may be to or from the historic landscape (panoramic view, borrowed view or vista, on-site view or vista, etc.).

**Circulation** – the spaces, features and applied material finishes which constitute the movement systems of the historic landscape (paths, walks, plazas, squares, roads, parking facilities, etc.).

**Water Features** – the built features and elements which utilize water to create thematic or aesthetic elements within the historic landscape (fountains, pools, ponds, lakes, cascades, canals, streams, etc.).

**Furnishings and Objects** – the elements which provide detail and diversity while addressing functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the historic landscape (fences, benches, urns, flagpoles, sculptures, markers, monuments, signs, etc.).

## APPENDIX B

## Expenditure Sheet for Oakwood Cemetery



Expenditures of Oakwood Cemetery since its organization in 1859.

[illegible]

# APPENDIX C

Receipt Sheet for Oakwood Cemetery

*Handwritten title: Memorial Fund*

<i>Memorial Fund</i>									
<i>Receipts</i>									
<i>No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Particulars</i>	<i>By</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Balance</i>	<i>Forward</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Balance</i>
1	Jan 1	Balance			100.00			100.00	
2	Jan 15	John Doe			50.00			150.00	
3	Jan 20	John Doe			50.00			200.00	
4	Jan 25	John Doe			50.00			250.00	
5	Jan 30	John Doe			50.00			300.00	
6	Feb 5	John Doe			50.00			350.00	
7	Feb 10	John Doe			50.00			400.00	
8	Feb 15	John Doe			50.00			450.00	
9	Feb 20	John Doe			50.00			500.00	
10	Feb 25	John Doe			50.00			550.00	
11	Feb 28	John Doe			50.00			600.00	
12	Mar 5	John Doe			50.00			650.00	
13	Mar 10	John Doe			50.00			700.00	
14	Mar 15	John Doe			50.00			750.00	
15	Mar 20	John Doe			50.00			800.00	
16	Mar 25	John Doe			50.00			850.00	
17	Mar 30	John Doe			50.00			900.00	
18	Apr 5	John Doe			50.00			950.00	
19	Apr 10	John Doe			50.00			1000.00	
20	Apr 15	John Doe			50.00			1050.00	
21	Apr 20	John Doe			50.00			1100.00	
22	Apr 25	John Doe			50.00			1150.00	
23	Apr 30	John Doe			50.00			1200.00	
24	May 5	John Doe			50.00			1250.00	
25	May 10	John Doe			50.00			1300.00	
26	May 15	John Doe			50.00			1350.00	
27	May 20	John Doe			50.00			1400.00	
28	May 25	John Doe			50.00			1450.00	
29	May 30	John Doe			50.00			1500.00	
30	Jun 5	John Doe			50.00			1550.00	
31	Jun 10	John Doe			50.00			1600.00	
32	Jun 15	John Doe			50.00			1650.00	
33	Jun 20	John Doe			50.00			1700.00	
34	Jun 25	John Doe			50.00			1750.00	
35	Jun 30	John Doe			50.00			1800.00	
36	Jul 5	John Doe			50.00			1850.00	
37	Jul 10	John Doe			50.00			1900.00	
38	Jul 15	John Doe			50.00			1950.00	
39	Jul 20	John Doe			50.00			2000.00	
40	Jul 25	John Doe			50.00			2050.00	
41	Jul 30	John Doe			50.00			2100.00	
42	Aug 5	John Doe			50.00			2150.00	
43	Aug 10	John Doe			50.00			2200.00	
44	Aug 15	John Doe			50.00			2250.00	
45	Aug 20	John Doe			50.00			2300.00	
46	Aug 25	John Doe			50.00			2350.00	
47	Aug 30	John Doe			50.00			2400.00	
48	Sep 5	John Doe			50.00			2450.00	
49	Sep 10	John Doe			50.00			2500.00	
50	Sep 15	John Doe			50.00			2550.00	
51	Sep 20	John Doe			50.00			2600.00	
52	Sep 25	John Doe			50.00			2650.00	
53	Sep 30	John Doe			50.00			2700.00	
54	Oct 5	John Doe			50.00			2750.00	
55	Oct 10	John Doe			50.00			2800.00	
56	Oct 15	John Doe			50.00			2850.00	
57	Oct 20	John Doe			50.00			2900.00	
58	Oct 25	John Doe			50.00			2950.00	
59	Oct 30	John Doe			50.00			3000.00	
60	Nov 5	John Doe			50.00			3050.00	
61	Nov 10	John Doe			50.00			3100.00	
62	Nov 15	John Doe			50.00			3150.00	
63	Nov 20	John Doe			50.00			3200.00	
64	Nov 25	John Doe			50.00			3250.00	
65	Nov 30	John Doe			50.00			3300.00	
66	Dec 5	John Doe			50.00			3350.00	
67	Dec 10	John Doe			50.00			3400.00	
68	Dec 15	John Doe			50.00			3450.00	
69	Dec 20	John Doe			50.00			3500.00	
70	Dec 25	John Doe			50.00			3550.00	
71	Dec 30	John Doe			50.00			3600.00	
72	Jan 5	John Doe			50.00			3650.00	
73	Jan 10	John Doe			50.00			3700.00	
74	Jan 15	John Doe			50.00			3750.00	
75	Jan 20	John Doe			50.00			3800.00	
76	Jan 25	John Doe			50.00			3850.00	
77	Jan 30	John Doe			50.00			3900.00	
78	Feb 5	John Doe			50.00			3950.00	
79	Feb 10	John Doe			50.00			4000.00	
80	Feb 15	John Doe			50.00			4050.00	
81	Feb 20	John Doe			50.00			4100.00	
82	Feb 25	John Doe			50.00			4150.00	
83	Feb 28	John Doe			50.00			4200.00	
84	Mar 5	John Doe			50.00			4250.00	
85	Mar 10	John Doe			50.00			4300.00	
86	Mar 15	John Doe			50.00			4350.00	
87	Mar 20	John Doe			50.00			4400.00	
88	Mar 25	John Doe			50.00			4450.00	
89	Mar 30	John Doe			50.00			4500.00	
90	Apr 5	John Doe			50.00			4550.00	
91	Apr 10	John Doe			50.00			4600.00	
92	Apr 15	John Doe			50.00			4650.00	
93	Apr 20	John Doe			50.00			4700.00	
94	Apr 25	John Doe			50.00			4750.00	
95	Apr 30	John Doe			50.00			4800.00	
96	May 5	John Doe			50.00			4850.00	
97	May 10	John Doe			50.00			4900.00	
98	May 15	John Doe			50.00			4950.00	
99	May 20	John Doe			50.00			5000.00	
100	May 25	John Doe			50.00			5050.00	
101	May 30	John Doe			50.00			5100.00	
102	Jun 5	John Doe			50.00			5150.00	
103	Jun 10	John Doe			50.00			5200.00	
104	Jun 15	John Doe			50.00			5250.00	
105	Jun 20	John Doe			50.00			5300.00	
106	Jun 25	John Doe			50.00			5350.00	
107	Jun 30	John Doe			50.00			5400.00	
108	Jul 5	John Doe			50.00			5450.00	
109	Jul 10	John Doe			50.00			5500.00	
110	Jul 15	John Doe			50.00			5550.00	
111	Jul 20	John Doe			50.00			5600.00	
112	Jul 25	John Doe			50.00			5650.00	
113	Jul 30	John Doe			50.00			5700.00	
114	Aug 5	John Doe			50.00			5750.00	
115	Aug 10	John Doe			50.00			5800.00	
116	Aug 15	John Doe			50.00			5850.00	
117	Aug 20	John Doe			50.00			5900.00	
118	Aug 25	John Doe			50.00			5950.00	
119	Aug 30	John Doe			50.00			6000.00	
120	Sep 5	John Doe			50.00			6050.00	
121	Sep 10	John Doe			50.00			6100.00	
122	Sep 15	John Doe			50.00			6150.00	
123	Sep 20	John Doe			50.00			6200.00	
124	Sep 25	John Doe			50.00			6250.00	
125	Sep 30	John Doe			50.00			6300.00	
126	Oct 5	John Doe			50.00			6350.00	
127	Oct 10	John Doe			50.00			6400.00	
128	Oct 15	John Doe			50.00			6450.00	
129	Oct 20	John Doe			50.00			6500.00	
130	Oct 25	John Doe			50.00			6550.00	
131	Oct 30	John Doe			50.00			6600.00	
132	Nov 5	John Doe			50.00			6650.00	
133	Nov 10	John Doe			50.00			6700.00	
134	Nov 15	John Doe			50.00			6750.00	
135	Nov 20	John Doe			50.00			6800.00	
136	Nov 25	John Doe			50.00			6850.00	
137	Nov 30	John Doe			50.00			6900.00	
138	Dec 5	John Doe			50.00			6950.00	
139	Dec 10	John Doe			50.00			7000.00	
140	Dec 15	John Doe			50.00			7050.00	
141	Dec 20	John Doe			50.00			7100.00	
142	Dec 25	John Doe			50.00			7150.00	
143	Dec 30	John Doe			50.00			7200.00	
144	Jan 5	John Doe			50.00			7250.00	
145	Jan 10	John Doe			50.00			7300.00	
146	Jan 15	John Doe			50.00			7350.00	
147	Jan 20	John Doe			50.00			7400.00	
148	Jan 25	John Doe			50.00			7450.00	
149	Jan 30	John Doe			50.00			7500.00	
150	Feb 5	John Doe			50.00			7550.00	
151	Feb 10	John Doe			50.00			7600.00	
152	Feb 15	John Doe			50.00			7650.00	
153	Feb 20	John Doe			50.00			7700.00	
154	Feb 25	John Doe			50.00			7750.00	
155	Feb 28	John Doe			50.00			7800.00	
156	Mar 5	John Doe			50.00			7850.00	
157	Mar 10	John Doe			50.00			7900.00	
158	Mar 15	John Doe			50.00			7950.00	
159	Mar 20	John Doe			50.00			8000.00	
160	Mar 25	John Doe			50.00			8050.00	
161	Mar 30	John Doe			50.00			8100.00	
162	Apr 5	John Doe			50.00			8150.00	
163	Apr 10	John Doe			50.00			8200.00	
164	Apr 15	John Doe			50.00			8250.00	
165	Apr 20	John Doe			50.00			8300.00	
166	Apr 25	John Doe			50.00			8350.00	
167	Apr 30	John Doe			50.00			8400.00	
168	May 5	John Doe			50.00			8450.00	
169	May 10	John Doe			50.00			8500.00	
170	May 15	John Doe			50.00			8550.00	
171	May 20	John Doe			50.00			8600.00	
172	May 25	John Doe			50.00			8650.00	
173	May 30	John Doe			50.00			8700.00	
174									

# Receipts of Oakwood Cemetery since its organization in 1859

Year	Number Interments	From sale of Lots	For improvement of graves care of Lots &c.	For Interments Removals Foundations &c.	For use of Receivings Vaults &c.	For use of Re- ceiving Vault & Chapel	For Interest	For Rent & Hay & Wood Sold.	Sundry Credits & Expenses	Greenhouse receipts	Costly Midland Ar. Peas & Salsman's pot'd	Total receipts from all sources
1859	8		236 39	400			105 96		854			326 47
1860	76	13452 42	207 67	203 00			192 85					14526 73
1861	98	2363 46	673 46	244 00			181 05					3542 04
1862	106	5707 03	753 53	278 00			374 15					6595 57
1863	123	6848 67	1253 06	432 00			319 65					8858 38
1864	147	1481 48 9	887 25	426 00			191 31					16319 45
1865	170	6951 43	605 18	537 00			211 52					8355 13
1866	224	8322 64	2013 85	637 38			496 40		2700			11497 27
1867	242	12285 32	1703 02	610 00	78 00		397 75		4508			15124 17
1868	245	9884 91	1317 78	630 00	137 00		123 75		3450			12127 94
1869	252	7020 39	1439 78	730 42	275 00		88 41		3200			9586 00
1870	265	13379 35	803 88	1033 37	490 50		52 42					15764 52
1871	254	7308 00	1023 01	795 00	395 00		132 74		6475			9723 50
1872	280	11430 23	1148 59	1052 00	612 00		263 21		11775			14623 78
1873	248	11260 50	813 82	950 25	475 00		867 27		32186			14688 70
1874	283	8798 16	1096 61	1210 58	472 00		127 27	500	9275			11802 37
1875	280	10929 27	1650 94	950 00	581 00		1040 7	14543				14369 71
1876	244	6373 57	717 54	905 00	410 00		297 55	18550				8889 16
1877	255	6817 15	727 83	1035 90	494 00		247 50					9322 38
1878	256	5489 78	577 23	1085 25	453 00		313 26	62240				8540 92
1879	210	6101 33	545 47	1015 92	571 75		280 41					8514 88
1880	218	8483 71	815 63	988 40	315 00	3000	333 66					10966 40
1881	287	5642 77	402 95	1214 13		75200	37 48					8049 33
1882	264	5427 27	1102 21	1085 90		76100	39 95		300			8419 33
1883	266	6212 57	1479 23	1057 72		89800	34 55					9682 07
1884	308	7084 60	809 44	1289 60		118400	78 53					10446 17
1885	314	5951 32	1031 26	1059 95		164700	23 50					9713 03
1886	281	3868 33	688 95	988 25		129400	12 00					6851 53
1887	321	4739 71	562 31	1243 50		140500	*970 122	800	175			17661 49
1888	376	10522 97	1790 90	1652 55		199250	10 17	87848	200			16849 57
1889	281	7051 11	4247 18	1778 90		191800	80 50	50400				15579 69
1890	335	8297 71	3596 34	1647 10		144935	81 60	46135				15533 45
1891	312	6253 30	4496 33	1860 21		95800	44 23	51090				14122 97
1892	330	7931 02	3858 11	2099 63		115400	50 29	42150				15514 55
1893	298	7203 29	4136 89	1658 50		151200	92 6	43550				14955 44
1894	283	6876 38	5698 66	1698 12		148900	347 5	40250				16199 41
1895	282	6304 29	4359 58	1535 35		111500	166 64	41550				13896 36
1896	318	4498 44	4496 70	1655 68		141550	368 35	33500				12769 67
1897	285	9754 39	606 481	1167 00		97000	288 47	33950				18614 17
1898	277	10680 36	6873 71	1113 00		95400	355 79	19800				20174 86
1899	288	7895 51	1855 01	1238 00		118900	375 97	377 60	5874			17995 83
1900	324	8100 95	4174 97	2614 16		55700	465 83	327 30	44186			17982 07
1901	322	14759 47	5595 30	3826 59		122400	227 61	389 37				26025 36
1902	317	8349 23	5457 1	3322 17		126800	266 15	691 27		3244	13562	19522 59

\* In 1887 the  
paid all of  
of Oakwood Jan  
interest paid  
to.



### Howard Daniels's Instructions for Accounts

## Howard Daniels's Instructions for Accounts

To the Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery  
Syracuse, NY

Gentlemen

In fulfillment of my promise; I herewith send instructions for the keeping of the Registers, Time Book and Accounts for your Cemetery.

The Registers of Interments is intended to be a complete record of every interment in a convenient and simple form, showing the number of the interments, the name of each person, date of birth, place of birth, late residence, date of decease, date of interment, the name of the disease, the parents name, it they can be ascertained, and if not, then the names of the nearest relatives; the number of the lot and section in which each person is interred, the undertakers name and a [ ] for Records in which should be recorded ( in case the remains are removed ). "removed from the old cemetery"; also where a body is disinterred and removed to another lot, or sent away, that fact should be clearly stated, making it a perfect index of the interments at all times.

The Register of Deeds is a book in which each deed is numbered in the order in which it is made, with the owners name, date, size of lot, number of sections, and price of lot in a tabular form with a column for Remarks, in which should be recorded all transfers of lots, divisions of lots etc. When a lot owner moves away and sells his lot, or exchanges it for another, the Deed should be returned and canceled and so recorded in the column of Remarks. No change of owners can be recognized except it is by the consent of the Trustees and recorded in this book.

The Time Book is intended to show in a tabular form every day work done; the name of the laborer; his wages, the date of each days work and the kind of work done each day. From this book the accounts with the workmen are made up; also the accounts of work done for individuals in improving their lots, the digging of graves etc. This is the Day book of the cemetery and also a record of each days work it should also give the...

The Account Books are to be kept in the usual manner- the account should be:

"Oakwood" which is the stock account, and includes only the cost of lands.

"Improvement Account" embraces the cost of grubbing, grading, blasting, and trenching- the construction of the roads, walks, lots etc. This account should be credited with the amount received from the sale of wood.

"Building Account" shows the cost of the fences, gates and Hedges.

"Planting and Seeding Account" Shows the cost of the trees, shrubs, grass seed, and manures- the preparation of the ground, the planting and sowing, the transportations etc.

"Implement Account" gives the number and cost of the tools, horses, carts, wagons, barrows, wheeling planks etc.

"Interment Account" is charged with the Brick, Stones, Lime, Cement, Labor used in the digging and building graves, Vaults, Monuments etc. the grading, graveling, planting, sodding and keeping of Lots for individuals, or any other work done for individuals. This Account is credited with the sums charged for such work and materials and is usually quite profitable and justly should be so.

"Expense Account" included Books, Office Furniture, Stationary, Advertising, Printing, Clerks Salary, Superintendents Salary, Dedications etc.

"Interest Account" is obvious.

"Rent and Sales Account" shows what is paid or received for Rents, also the receipts from sales of Grass, Hay, Pasture, etc. and if charged with the grubbing, and cutting of the Wood, may be credited with the sales of the same.

"Lot Account" shows how much has been received from the sales of Lots-also the amount returned for Lots that have been exchanged.

"Laying out and Surveying Account" gives the cost of laying out the grounds, the survey and maps, the stakes, the bill of Stationary for Drawing paper, Field Books etc. at Mr. Wynkoop's- also two days work by laborers for every day I was in the field- the same for Mr. F. E. Knight.

"Bills Payable" and "Receivable" Accounts are obvious.

"Office Furniture Account" is sometimes kept.

In relation to some of the accounts I would say- Mr. J. Munroe built a fence which should go to "Fence Account"

The Shed, the Gate at the N. W. corner of the Cem, the Platform and the seats for Dedications, the Privies, the Sections Signs, etc. go to the "Expense Accounts". The Boards charged in the Lumberman's bill were used in the Shed, Privies, Gate etc. also some Carpenter Work- Mr. Scott paid another carpenter for building the Shed, Privies and Platform.

The nails, spikes etc. from Hardware Store to same account.

The planks in the Lumberman Bill are "Wheeling Plank" and go to Improvements.

The repairing and sharpening of Tools by Mr. Powell and also a Blacksmiths Bill probably paid by Mr. Scott should be charged to "Expense Account"

The Tool Box- the surveying rods, and the handles to axes, Picks, [Mattocks] etc. by Mr. Powell should be charged to "Improvement Account"

The Drawing boards and tressils- the lumber of Mr. Powell- the making by Mr. (certified by myself) goes to "Laying Out and Surveying Account".

The subscription made to start the cemetery- the indebtedness for the lands- the mortgages and such other transactions, concerning the purchase of the lands, (of which I know little) should be treated as a commercial or individual transaction.

In opening the Account books I should do it in pencil at first- or what is better on Bill Paper and get everything correct- then copy into the account books.

I think of nothing more at present and presume Mr. Ballard will have no difficulty in arranging the accounts when the bills and Claims are properly before him- should you or he desire anything further please address me at once.

New York Feb. 22nd 1860

Very Respectfully Yours,  
H. Daniels.

## APPENDIX E

## Rules and Regulations of Oakwood Cemetery



### Rules and Regulations of Oakwood Cemetery

#### 1st

All lots shall be held in pursuance of the provisions of Title 8th article 1st Chapter 18th. Part 1 of the revised Statutes of the state of New York and shall not be used for any other purpose than as a place of burial for the dead.

#### 2nd

The proprietor of each lot may erect any proper monument or sepulchral structure thereon and cultivate trees, shrubs, or plants on the same except that no slab shall be set in any other than horizontal position unless it be at least three inches in thickness, finished on both sides, set in a permanent socket of stone and not exceeding two feet and a half high and two feet wide: and no tree growing upon the lot or border shall be cut or destroyed without the consent of the association.

#### 3rd

Vaults or Tombs are not recommended, but will be permitted provided all but their fronts and roofs are below ground built of durable materials and fitted with catacombs in a tight and substantial manner which shall be sealed up with hard brick laid in cement immediately after the deposit of bodies therein and the entrance provided with an iron metal door.

#### 4th

If any trees or shrubs situated in any lot shall by means of their roots, branches, or otherwise become detrimental to the adjacent lots or avenue, or dangerous or inconvenient to passengers or may mar the effect and beauty of the scenery. It shall be the duty of the association and it shall have the right to enter the said lot and remove the said trees or shrubs or such parts thereof as may be detrimental, dangerous, or inconvenient.

#### 5th

If any monument, Vault, Tomb effigy or structure whatever or any inscription be placed in or upon any lot which shall be determined by a majority of the Board of Trustees for the time being to be offensive or improper, the said Trustees shall have the right and it shall be their duty to enter upon such lot and remove the said offensive or improper object or objects provided however that if said structure or improvement shall have been made with the consent of the Board of Trustees, the same shall not thereafter be removed except by a vote of three fourths of the Trustees.

#### 6th

Proprietors shall not allow interments to be made upon their lots for a confirmation nor shall any transfer or assignment of any lot or of any interest therein be valid without the consenting of the Trustees of their offices first had and endorsed upon such transfer or assignment nor shall any disinterment be allowed without permission being obtained of the President or Secretary.

#### 7th

With a view of preserving the sylvan effect so essential in rural cemeteries no enclosure of lots will be allowed other than plant hedges not exceeding three and one half feet in height or simple posts of iron or cut stone to designate the corners or angles of lots. said posts to project not more than one foot above the surface of the ground. In place of the posts a continuous curb or coping of cut stone may encircle the lot provided the same be not more than one foot in height.

#### 8th

The foundation for Vaults, monuments or any other structures shall be in accordance with the Rules of By laws of the association and all workmen employed in such foundations or in the construction of vaults enclosing of lots, section of monuments, or any other work pertaining to the improvement of the grounds shall be under the supervision and direction of said association or its agents. The grading and trenching of all lots the digging of ground and foundation trenches must be under the direction of an agent of the association and by workmen employed by the association on the grounds.

#### 9th

It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees and they shall have power from time to time to lay out or alter such avenues or walks as they may deem proper provided the same does not interfere with lots previously disposed of and to make such general rules and regulations for the government protection and improvement of the grounds as they may deem requisite and proper to secure and promote the general object of the association.

#### 10th

The proprietors of lots and their families shall be allowed access to the grounds at all times observing the rules which are or may be adopted for the regulation of Visitors.

## APPENDIX F

1856 Plant List from *the Horticulturist*

1856 Plant List from the *Horticulturist*

From *The Horticulturist* "The Rural Cemeteries, No. 2. Planting," p. 394.

What trees may best adorn the mountain's brow,  
and spread promiscuous o'er the plains below?  
What, singly, lift the high-aspiring head,  
Or, mix'd in groups, their quivering shadows shed?  
Or creep in underwood along the ground;  
Or, in low copses, skirt the hillock's side,  
Or, form the thicket, some defect to hide?  
I now Inquire.

We shall now proceed to give a list, 1st of evergreen trees suitable for general purposes to be planted by the company; 2nd, of deciduous kinds; 3d, trees and shrubbery for individual planters; 4th, the best and newer weeping kinds that may be admitted with propriety and effect; 5th a list of hedge plants, to supersede the necessity of iron for enclosures; and 6th, vines suitable for individual lots, &c.:-

#### I. EVERGREEN-TREES SUITABLE FOR GENERAL PURPOSES, TO BE PLANTED BY THE COMPANY.

Norway Spruce Fir,  
Hemlock Spruce,  
The Cedar of Lebanon, and the African Cedar,  
The Pinaster,  
The Cephalonian Pine,  
The Weymouth Pine,  
The White Spruce Fir,  
The Black Spruce Fir,  
The Balm of Gilead; if this is planted in the youth of the cemetery, it will, in twenty years, serve as a tree to be thinned out and destroyed, and, answering for present effect, is useful.

*Cryptomeria Japonica*, a very desirable evergreen for cemeteries; not entirely hardy at the North.

*Abies Douglassi*,  
*Abies Morinda*,  
*Pinus Benthamiana*,  
*Pinus Sylvestrus*,  
*Pinus Gerardiana*,  
*Pinus Lamvertiana*,  
*Pinus cembra*,  
*Pinus monticola*,  
*Picea pinsapo*,  
*Picea picta*,  
*Picea nobilis*,  
*Picea amabilis*,  
*Picea spectabilis*,  
*Picea Fraserii*,  
*Picea Menziesii*,

and others. At the South and perhaps in the Middle States, the *Sequoia Gigantea* or Great Tree of California should not be forgotten.

*Podocarpus Japonica* resembles the Irish Yew, with larger foliage, and is perfectly hardy. We could name many others, but a little study will give a longer list of trees of similar habit with the above as well as those that follow.

#### II. DECIDUOUS TREES FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

Oaks; all the varieties, but, especially, the Overcup and the White Oak.  
*Magnolia macrophylla*, or long-leaved magnolia,  
*Magnolia conspicua*,  
*Magnolia acuminata*,  
*Magnolia auriculata*, all the family that are hardy in your latitude.  
Tulip-tree.  
American Lime Tree or *Tilia*,  
Maples; most of these should be employed, but, as in the case of the single lot-holder, we recommend the *Acer Platanoides*, or Norway, especially.  
The common Horse-Chestnut, and the Red and Double Chinese. The Buckeye loses its leaves too early in the autumn.  
*Virgilia lutea*, or Yellow Wood,  
All the Robinias, or Locusts,  
Kentucky Coffee Tree,  
The Judas, tree,  
The Florida Dogwood,  
The Buttonwood, for some sites, would make a fine boundary,  
The Mountain Ash,  
The Ash-trees,  
The Copper, and other Beeches,  
The Sassafras in groups of three and five,  
The Elm and especially the Slippery Elm, the latter forming a beautiful head,  
The Hickories, on high ground, weeping willow in dells,  
The Aspen,  
The Lombardy Poplar, in selected spots,  
The White and Paper Birches,  
The Liquidambar,  
The Ginkgo Tree,  
European and American Larches,  
Deciduous Cypress,  
White Fringe Tree,  
Laburnum,  
Tulip-tree.

#### III. TREES AND SHRUBS SUITABLE FOR INDIVIDUAL PLANTERS

Dwarf oaks,  
*Magnolias grandiflora*, or Evergreen,  
*Magnolia the glaucous* or Swamp,  
*Magnolia tripetala*, or Umbrella-tree,  
*Magnolia conspicua*, or Chandelier-tree,  
*Magnolia purpurea*, and *Soulangeana*,  
Berberies,  
Mahonias,  
*Stuartia Virginica*, and *Marylandica*,  
*Gordonia pubescens* (formerly *Franklinia*)  
The Black, or Norway Maple; no tree will produce a better head, or a more impenetrable shade, and, as it does not attain a great height, there is no more suitable large tree for a single lot.  
Dwarf Horse-Chestnut,  
*Kilreuteria paniculata*,  
The Hop tree,  
The Bladder nut tree,  
Japan *Euonymus*, Evergreen,  
The Hollies,  
Venetian Sumac, or Mist-tree,  
*Virgilia lutea*, or Yellowwood,  
Spanish Broom,  
The Laburnums,



The Rose Acacia,  
 The Bird Cherry,  
 Roses; select the hardiest everblooming kinds.  
 The Common Ivy will spread gracefully over a lot, instead of grass, but is found, in practice, to collect the leaves in winter, and the kinds.  
 The Rhododendrons, which we should recommend, would be  
*Kalmia latifolia*, or Common Laurel,  
*Rhododendron maximum*,  
*Rhododendron carawbiense*,  
*Rhododendron ponticum*,

These are superb bloomers, and beautiful evergreens in addition. When they attain considerable size, nothing can be more desirable.

The Common White Jasmine,  
 The Periwinkles are admirable adapted to cover the surface of graves, and to trail over the grounds.  
 The Halesias, or Snowdrop trees,  
 The Fringe Tree,  
 The Copper Beech,  
 The Silver, Variegated, and Golden, and the common tree Boxes,  
*Cryptomeria japonica*,  
*Pinus pumilio*,  
*Juniperus suecica*,  
*Juniperus hibernica*,  
*Juniperus sabiniana*,  
*Juniperus chinensis*,  
*Juniperus pendula*,  
 The Yews,  
*Deutzia gracilis*,  
 The Spireas,  
 The Tamarisks,  
*Wiegela rosea* and *amabilis*,  
 The Mahonias,  
 The Forsythia viridissima.

#### IV. WEEPING TREES FOR INDIVIDUAL LOTS, ETC.

*Sophora pendula*, or Weeping Sophora,  
 European Weeping Ash,  
 Weeping Golden Ash,  
 Weeping Mountain Ash,  
 Weeping Birch  
 Weeping Beech  
 Weeping Larch  
 Weeping Elm  
 Weeping Oaks  
 Weeping Poplars  
 Weeping Linden  
 Weeping Laburnum,  
 Weeping Thorns,  
 The *Lentiscus weeping ash*,  
*Fraxinus lentiscifolia pendula* is a fine spreading and somewhat drooping tree, well worthy of a place.

The Weeping Sophora, first on this list, one of the most remarkable and elegant of the drooping shrubs, is but little introduced, but we are convinced that, when it is more generally known it will be much employed in cemeteries. The round head, and deeply weeping, long, slender, green shoots, are quite ornamental, both in summer and winter. The foliage and flowers resemble somewhat the White Locust and the Laburnum. It could be procured in quantities from Europe, at very moderate cost, and will be, when it becomes known, extensively propagated here, where it is quite hardy.

#### V. HEDGE-PLANTS SUITABLE FOR THE ENCLOSURE OF THE CEMETERY LOTS.

The American Holly will be the first choice of all who can procure it, both for its beauty and durability.  
 The Junipers will form a very beautiful and suitable hedge, south of Pennsylvania.  
 Arbor Vitae, both Chinese and American, Golden, Oriental, Tartarian, and Japan, are highly suitable and ornamental for lots, especially the latter, but require annual shearing.  
 The Siberian Arbor Vitae is particularly suitable for a cemetery hedge; of slow growth, compact habit, and requires but little trimming.  
 The Hemlock, treated as a hedge-plant, would be exceedingly ornamental.  
 The Yews, but, especially, the upright, or Irish variety.  
 The Buckthorn, and Berberries.  
 Honeysuckles, carefully attended to, are graceful and proper, particularly the Chinese evergreen.  
 The Tree-box is of slow growth, hardy, and truly superb as a cemetery hedge, requiring less attention than any other.  
 The Savin, with its dark green foliage, is only second to the above.  
 The Evergreen Privet.  
 The Lilac, Syringa, Pyracantha, Snowball, and similar straggling plants, should never be allowed.

#### VI. VINES SUITABLE FOR THE ADORNMENT OF INDIVIDUAL LOTS.

The Clematis; most of the varieties, but especially, the Sweet scented, which will cover a monument or enclosure with its delicate tendrils and flowers in the most beautiful manner.  
 The sweet scented, or Male Grape, will run over a tree or large shrub, and annually produce its regale of delicious odor.  
 The Wisterias may be used, with caution, where there is a large space or railing to entwine.

## Appendix G

**Class Delineation: Resolutions Made at a  
Meeting of Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery  
November 5, 1859**

**Class Delineation: Resolutions Made at a Meeting of Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery**

At a special meeting of the Trustees of Oakwood Cemetery held Nov. 5th, 1859, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That the Section lying next the Binghamton Railroad be called third class grounds; and the price of the lots be 8 cents per square foot.
2. *Resolved*, That the two graded circular sections one and two, and the two sections south of ravine be designated as first-class grounds, and that the price of the same be 16 cents per square foot.
3. *Resolved*, That the circular and concentric sections on the high ridge, northwest of the orchard and the four circular and concentric sections south of them be called first class grounds, and that the price of the same be 16 cents per square foot.
4. *Resolved*, That the balance of the grounds be called second class, and that the price be 12 cents per square foot.
5. *Resolved*, That the price of Lots be advanced to 10, 15, and 20 cents per foot, according to their respective grades, on and after the first day of May, 1860.
6. *Resolved* That two hundred square feet constitute a standard Lot.
7. *Resolved*, That the choice of Lots be sold at auction on the grounds on Monday, Nov. 14, at half past 10 o'clock A. M., and that each successful bidder have fifteen minutes to select his lot.
8. *Resolved*, That each successful bidder may choose as many contiguous lots as he may desire for himself and his relatives, by paying the premium on each lot.
9. *Resolved*, That a copy of the above resolutions, together with a notice of the day and hour of sale, be inserted in the three daily papers of this city.

Notice is hereby given that the Engineer will be found during each day on the ground, and will give all the information in relation to the lots which are to be offered for sale. A conspicuous stake will be placed in the center of each lot on which will be marked the number, the ridge and the minimum price. It is particularly desirable that such citizens as propose to purchase lots should go upon the grounds between this and the day of sale, and make selections of such as they desire to bid upon in order to be able to designate their choice as soon as the sale is declared off to them. A train of cars will leave the depot of the Binghamton Railroad at a quarter past 10 o'clock on the day of sale, and will carry citizens to the grounds free of charge.

By order of Trustees,

nov7 dtd

Allen Munroe, Secretary

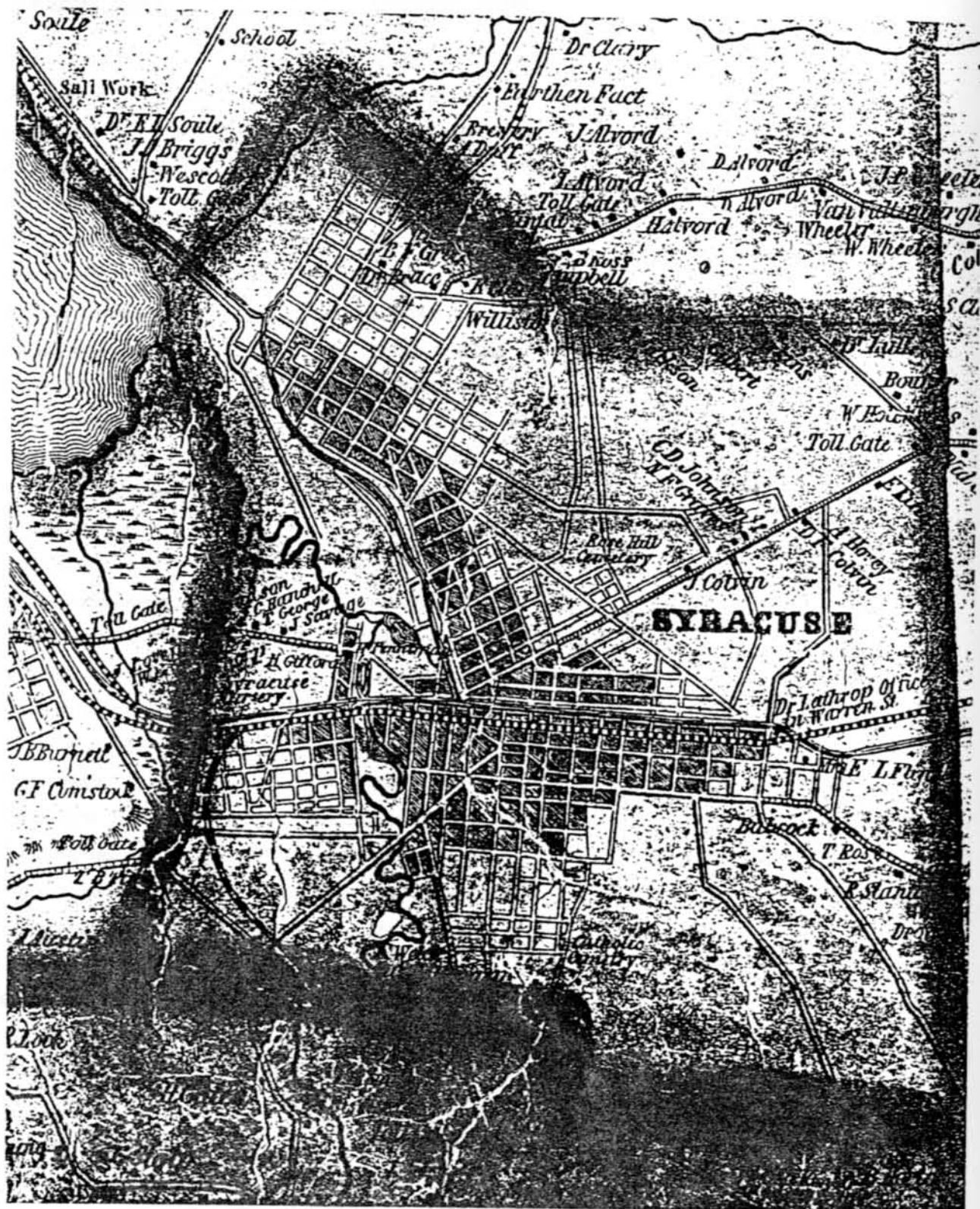
**Appendix H****Plant List for Cultural Landscape Report: Oakwood Cemetery**



## Plant List for Cultural Landscape Report: Oakwood Cemetery

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Abies concolor</i>	white fir
<i>Acer negundo</i>	boxelder
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway maple
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	red maple
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	sugar maple
<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>	bottlebrush buckeye
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	common horsechestnut
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	ailanthus or tree-of-heaven
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	bitternut hickory
<i>Carya glabra</i>	pignut hickory
<i>Carya ovata</i>	red or shagbark hickory
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	eastern redbud
<i>Cladrastis kentuckia</i>	American yellowwood
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	European beech
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	white ash
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	honeylocust
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	yellow-poplar or tulip-tree
<i>Magnolia acuminata</i>	cucumbertree or cucumber magnolia
<i>Picea pungens</i>	blue spruce
<i>Picea Abies</i>	Norway spruce
<i>Pinus mugo</i>	mugo pine
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Austrian pine
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	white pine
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	eastern cottonwood
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Douglas-fir
<i>Quercus alba</i>	white oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	northern red oak
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	black oak
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	baldcypress
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	northern white-cedar
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	eastern hemlock
<i>Ulmus</i>	elm

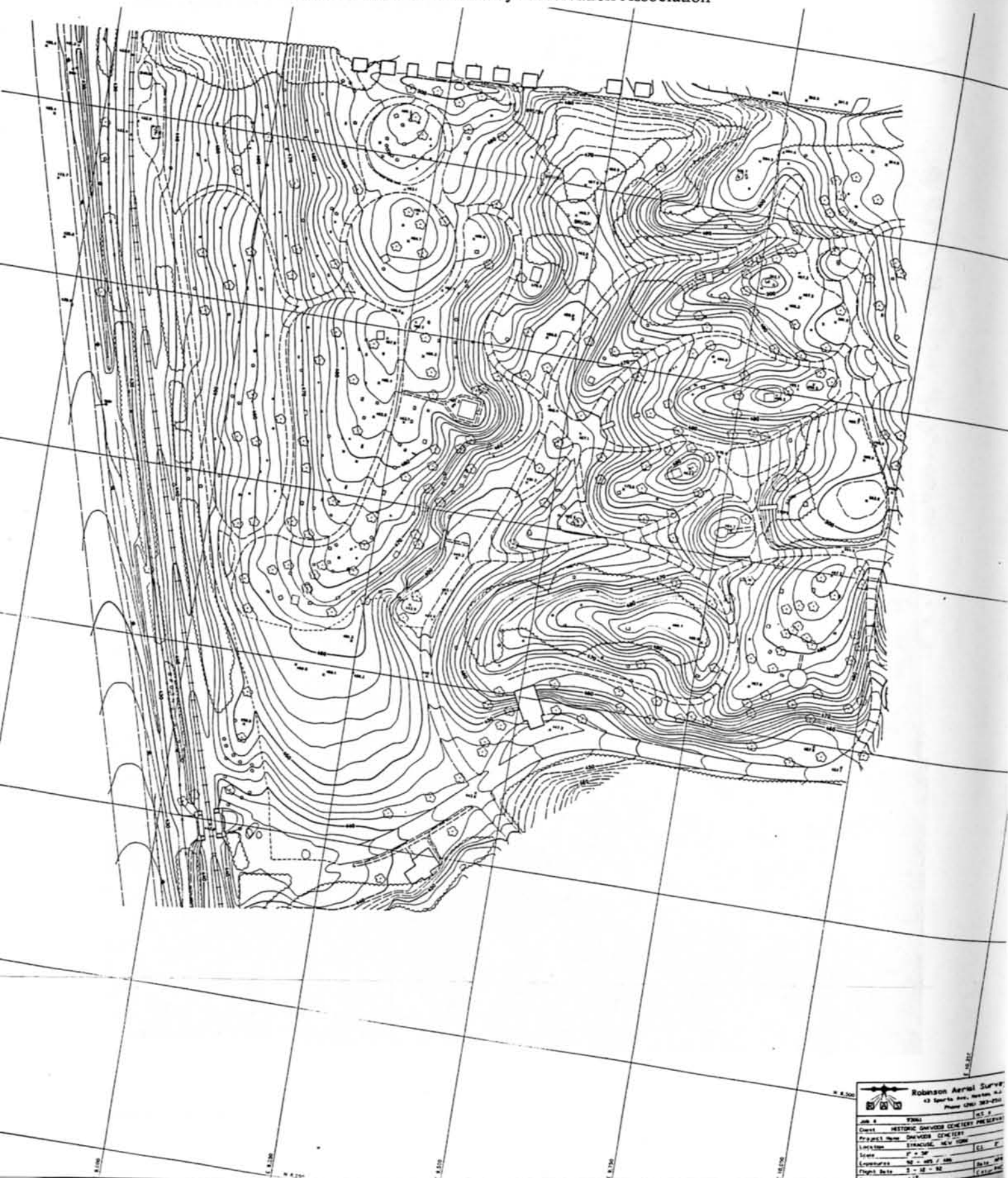
**Town on Onondaga Map, 1854**  
Onondaga Historical Society



## APPENDIX J

## Survey of Oakwood Cemetery, 1994

Survey of Oakwood Cemetery, 1994  
Historic Oakwood Cemetery Preservation Association



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And, lastly, I would like to thank my Mom and Dad, and Gerry, for their unconditional support.

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