

LANDMARKS COMMISSION APPLICATION

LC

Complete all sections of this application, making sure to note the requirements on the accompanying checklist (reverse).

If you need an interpreter, translator, materials in alternate formats or other accommodations to access these forms, please call (608) 266-4635

City of Madison
Planning Division
126 S Hamilton St
PO Box 2985
Madison, WI 53701-2985
(608) 266-4635



1. LOCATION

Project Address: 1 Speedway Road Aldermanic District: 13

2. PROJECT

Project Title/Description: Forest Hill Cemetery - Removal of Confederate Monuments

This is an application for: (check all that apply)

- Alteration/Addition to a building in a Local Historic District or Designated Landmark (specify)**:
 - Mansion Hill Third Lake Ridge First Settlement
 - University Heights Marquette Bungalows Landmark
- Land Division/Combination in a Local Historic District or to Designated Landmark Site (specify)**:
 - Mansion Hill Third Lake Ridge First Settlement
 - University Heights Marquette Bungalows Landmark
- Demolition
- Alteration/Addition to a building adjacent to a Designated Landmark
- Variance from the Historic Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 41)
- Landmark Nomination/Rescission of Historic District Nomination/Amendment
(Please contact the Historic Preservation Planner for specific Submission Requirements.)
- Other (specify):

DPCED USE ONLY	Registrar #:
	DATE STAMP
	Preliminary Zoning Review Zoning Staff Initial: Date: / /

3. APPLICANT

Applicant's Name: Lisa Laschinger Company: City of Madison Parks Division
 Address: 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Rm. 104, Madison, WI 53703
Street City State Zip

Telephone: (608) 266-9214 Email: llaschinger@cityofmadison.com

Property Owner (if not applicant): Eric M. Knapp, Parks Superintendent
 Address: 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Rm. 104, Madison, WI 53703
Street City State Zip

Property Owner's Signature: Kay H. Ruddle for Eric Knapp Date: 7-8-18

NOTICE REGARDING LOBBYING ORDINANCE: If you are seeking approval of a development that has over 40,000 square feet of non-residential space, or a residential development of over 10 dwelling units, or if you are seeking assistance from the City with a value of \$10,000 (including grants, loans, TIF or similar assistance), then you likely are subject to Madison's lobbying ordinance (Sec. 2.40, MGO). You are required to register and report your lobbying. Please consult the City Clerk's Office for more information. Failure to comply with the lobbying ordinance may result in fines.

4. APPLICATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS (see checklist on reverse)

All applications must be filed by 12:00pm on the submission date with the Preservation Planner, the Department of Planning & Community & Economic Development, Planning Division, located at 126 S Hamilton Street. Applications submitted after the submission date or incomplete applications will be postponed to the next scheduled filing time. Submission deadlines can be viewed here: https://www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/planning/documents/LC_Meeting_Schedule_Dates.pdf

APPLICATION SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST:

In order to be considered complete, every application submission shall include at least the following information unless otherwise waived by the Preservation Planner.

- Landmarks Commission Application w/signature of the property owner (1 copy only).
- Twelve (12) collated paper copies 11" x 17" or smaller (via mail or drop-off) of submission materials (see below).
- Electronic files (via email) of submission materials (see below).
- Narrative Description/Letter of Intent addressed to the Landmarks Commission, describing the location of the property and the scope of the proposed project.
 - Photographs of existing conditions;
 - Photographs of existing context;
- Architectural drawings reduced to 11" x 17" or smaller pages which may include:
 - Dimensioned site plans showing siting of structures, grading, landscaping, pedestrian and vehicular access, lighting, signage, and other features;
 - Elevations of all sides showing exterior features and finishes, subsurface construction, floor and roof;
 - Floor Plan views of levels and roof;
 - For proposals of more than two (2) commercial or residential or combination thereof units, a minimum of two (2) accurate street-view normal perspectives shown from a viewpoint of no more than five (5) feet above existing grade.
- **Landmarks Commission staff will preliminarily review projects related to the construction of additions and/or new construction with Zoning staff in order to determine the completeness of the submission materials. Applicants are encouraged to contact Zoning staff to discuss projects early in the process;
- Any other information requested by the Preservation Planner to convey the aspects of the project which may include:
 - Perspective drawing
 - Photographs of examples on another historic resource
 - Manufacturer's product information showing dimensions and materials;
 - Other Legislative file 48643

CONTACT THE PRESERVATION PLANNER:

Please contact the Preservation Planner with any questions.

Amy Scanlon, Registered Architect
 City of Madison Planning Division
 126 S Hamilton St
 P.O. Box 2985 (mailing address)
 Madison, WI 53701-2985
ascanlon@cityofmadison.com
 (608) 266-6552



Madison Parks Division

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Room 104
Madison, WI 53703
608-266-4711 • cityofmadison.com/parks



TO: Landmarks Commission
Amy Scanlon, Historic Preservation Planner

FROM: Eric M. Knepp *KHR for*
Parks Superintendent

DATE: July 8, 2018

SUBJECT: Forest Hill Cemetery – Removal of Confederate Monuments

The Common Council determined via Resolution RES-18-00268 (Legislative File #48643) that the Confederate monuments in Forest Hill Cemetery will be treated in the following manner:

“The CSA Plaque Monument previously removed shall be offered by the City to the State Historical Society or the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, but not to any private entity. If neither the Historical Society nor the Veterans Museum accepts the Plaque, it will remain in storage under the control of the Parks Division.

The Cenotaph (the large monument within the burial area) shall be removed from the burial area of the Confederate Rest. The Cenotaph shall be offered by the City to the State Historical Society or the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, but not to any private entity. If neither the Historical Society nor the Veterans Museum accepts the Cenotaph, it will remain in storage under the control of the Parks Division.”

The City of Madison Parks Division wishes to submit the following request for consideration by the Landmarks Commission in accordance with RES-18-00268. Please consider this narrative and description of activities for review.

The CSA Plaque Monument was removed in 2017 and has been in storage (please see attached Legislative File 48643 for historical context and pictures of the area before and after the plaque was removed). The Parks Division would like to remove the Cenotaph (the large monument within the burial area of the Confederate Rest); this monument will also be placed in storage. No excavation is needed for the removal of these monuments.

Both items have been offered to the State Historical Society and the Wisconsin Veterans Museum (see attached letters). If there are any questions with the above information, please contact Lisa Laschinger at (608) 266-9214 or llaschinger@cityofmadison.com.

Enclosures:

Legislative File 48643
Monument Report
Forest Hill Photos
33-A-1 Speedway Road-Forest Hill Cemetery
Letters to Wisconsin State Historical Society and Veterans Museum

CONFEDERATE REST AT FOREST HILL CEMETERY REPORT

Date: January 19, 2018

Prepared for: Mayor Paul Soglin
Board of Parks Commissioners
Landmarks Commission
Equal Opportunities Commission

Prepared by: Eric Knepp, Parks Superintendent
Lisa Laschinger, Parks Operations Manager
Amy Scanlon, Preservation Planner

Re: Establishing a Plan for the Confederate Rest Monuments in Forest Hill Cemetery


INTRODUCTION

Forest Hill Cemetery's Confederate Rest is the northernmost cemetery for Confederate soldiers. Confederate Rest, owned and maintained by the City of Madison, is located in the northeastern portion of the cemetery just south of the mausoleum. Within the granite walls of Confederate Rest are 140 individual markers containing the names of the soldiers, the grave and marker of Alice Waterman (long-time caretaker of Confederate Rest), and one large monument. A smaller monument was located just outside of the walls until it was removed in August, 2017. The picture below shows the walls, headstones, larger monument and the smaller monument prior to its removal.



OVERVIEW

General Timeline of Historical Information

- 1857 City opens and begins operating Forest Hill Cemetery
- 1862 Battle of Island 10
Infantrymen, mostly from Louisiana, Alabama and Tennessee, taken as Prisoners of War and held at Camp Randall. Many died from battle injuries and illness.
- 1862 Confederate soldiers buried in a portion of Forest Hill Cemetery known as Confederate Rest.
- 1868 Alice Waterman arrives
Ms. Waterman was from Louisiana and arrived in Madison in 1868. She tended to the maintenance and beautification of Confederate Rest until her death. Her work involved many tasks including planting hedges, erecting headstones, and having numerous perimeter enclosures constructed.
- 1870 Headboards replaced
Newspaper article describes that the old headboards would be replaced with new.
- 1897 Alice Waterman dies
Ms. Waterman buried in a corner of Confederate Rest.
- 1906 Large monument placed
Newspaper article describes the program held at the cemetery when the monument was placed. Newspaper article describes the United Daughters of the Confederacy fundraising effort for the monument. The large monument is inscribed with names of the Confederate soldiers buried at Confederate Rest and the message “Erected in loving memory by United Daughters of the Confederacy to Mrs. Alice Waterman and ‘her boys’.”
- 
- 1909 Headstones to be replaced
Newspaper article described that the War Department will place 39 x 12 x 4 marble headstones for each soldier at Confederate Rest.
- 1930 - 2000 Memorial Day decorations placed
- 1980 Consecration Ceremony
United Daughters of the Confederacy held consecration ceremony which was conducted by Reverend Denson of the Emanuel Episcopal Church in Rockford, IL.

- 1981 Small monument placed
Newspaper article describing that a bronze plaque on a granite base will be unveiled at Confederate Rest



- 2001 Confederate Flag Guidelines policy introduced
- 2005 Forest Hill Cemetery Rules and Regulations and Grave Decoration Clarification adopted
- 2016 Confederate Flag Policy at Forest Hill Cemetery adopted
Board of Park Commission voted to remove Confederate Rest flagpole
- 2017 Revised Forest Hill Cemetery Rules and Regulations adopted
Monuments vandalized August 15, 2017
Small monument removed August 16, 2017

Current Management Plan:

The Parks Division maintains the Confederate Rest according to the same standards as the rest of the Cemetery. Parks staff conduct routine mowing and string trimming operations in Confederate Rest throughout the mowing season. Parks staff also remove leaves and tend to perennial plantings as a part of fall and spring clean-up operations. Decorations are removed according to the Forest Hill Cemetery Rules and Regulation policies. Individual markers are adjusted as needed. Given the sensitivity of this area and the attention it has gained, it is patrolled regularly for vandalism and extra monitoring is required over Memorial Day weekend.

Confederate Flags:

In 2016, when national conversation surrounding the Confederate flag and monuments began to grow, the Parks Division worked with Mayor Soglin, Alders, the City Attorney and interested parties to develop policies that are more appropriate for the cemetery and its visitors. The City Attorney issued Formal Opinion 2016-002, regarding Confederate Flag Policy at Forest Hill Cemetery. Prior to the start of this work, a flagpole stood within the Confederate Rest and, since 2001, service organizations could fly an Official Flag of the Confederacy or Bonnie Blue on Memorial and Veterans Day. In addition, service



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 48643 **Version:** 2 **Name:** AMENDED - Establishing a Plan for the Confederate Monuments in Forest Hill Cemetery

Type: Resolution **Status:** Reconsidered Business

File created: 8/30/2017 **In control:** COMMON COUNCIL

On agenda: 5/1/2018 **Final action:** 5/1/2018

Enactment date: **Enactment #:** RES-18-00268

Title: AMENDED - Establishing a Plan for the Confederate Monuments in Forest Hill Cemetery.

Sponsors: Shiva Bidar-Sielaff

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. 4/10/18 Council Meeting: Potential Amendments.pdf, 2. 4/9/18 Confederate Resolution Procedural Memo.pdf, 3. Monument Report.pdf, 4. Forest Hill Photos.pdf, 5. 33 -- A - 1 Speedway Road - Forest Hill Cemetery .pdf, 6. 1906 Newspaper Articles.pdf, 7. 1980 & 1981 Newspaper Articles.pdf, 8. AHA Statement on Confederate Monuments.pdf, 9. Atlanta History Center - Status Quo Not an Option Intro & Template.pdf, 10. Book Scan.pdf, 11. Confederate Burials - Center for Civil War Research.pdf, 12. Confederate Rest Historic Madison - Gajewski.pdf, 13. Confederate Rest Monument Media Coverage.pdf, 14. confederatestatement 817.pdf, 15. ForestHillRulesRegs.pdf, 16. ForestHillstatement. 817.pdf, 17. Opinion 2016-002 Confederate Flag Memo (Final).pdf, 18. Planning Magazine - Dec 2017 Goodman.pdf, 19. SPLCwhose_heritage.pdf, 20. Joint Meeting Confederate Monuments 01302018.pdf, 21. New York Times Article, 22. Public Comment Emails.pdf, 23. 1.30.18 Joint Meeting Registration Statements.pdf, 24. Confederate Monuments in FH-Public Comments.pdf, 25. Landmarks - 3-19-18 - 60 Minutes Confederate Monuments Report, 26. 48643 - Landmarks STAFF REPORT 3-19-18.pdf, 27. Landmarks BOPC action 3-14-18.pdf, 28. 48643 - Landmarks Levitan Photos.pdf, 29. 48643 - Landmarks - Email from Carl Landsness.pdf, 30. 48643 LC Report 03-19-18.pdf, 31. Version 1 48643.pdf, 32. 48643 Ahrens v3.pdf

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
5/1/2018	2	COMMON COUNCIL	Reconsider	Fail
4/17/2018	2	COMMON COUNCIL	Reconsider and refer to a future meeting	Pass
4/10/2018	1	COMMON COUNCIL	Adopt the Following Amendment(s)	
4/10/2018	2	COMMON COUNCIL	Amend Alternate	Fail
4/10/2018	2	COMMON COUNCIL	Adopt With Amendment(s)	Pass
4/10/2018	2	COMMON COUNCIL	Adopt the Following Amendment(s)	Pass
3/19/2018	1	LANDMARKS COMMISSION	Return to Lead with the Following Recommendation(s)	Pass
3/14/2018	1	BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS	RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER	Pass
3/8/2018	1	EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION	Return to Lead with the Following Recommendation(s)	Pass
2/8/2018	1	EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION		
1/30/2018	1	BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS	Re-refer	Pass
1/30/2018	1	EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES		

1/30/2018	1	COMMISSION LANDMARKS COMMISSION	Re-refer	Pass
9/5/2017	1	BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS	Referred	
9/5/2017	1	BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS	Referred	
9/5/2017	1	COMMON COUNCIL	Refer	Pass
8/30/2017	1	Mayor's Office	Referred for Introduction	

The proposed resolution calls on the Parks Commission and Equal Opportunities Commission to meet jointly to develop recommendations regarding Confederate monuments in the Forest Hills Cemetery. The proposed resolution does not have a fiscal impact; however, recommendations to remove the monuments or construct new monuments may require a budget amendment.

AMENDED - Establishing a Plan for the Confederate Monuments in Forest Hill Cemetery.

WHEREAS, the City of Madison opened Forest Hill Cemetery in 1857, and continues to own and operate the Cemetery today; and,

WHEREAS, in 1862, 140 prisoners of the Confederate States of America being housed at the Union Army stockade at Camp Randall died and were ultimately buried in Forest Hills Cemetery in what is now known as the "Confederate Rest Area"; and,

WHEREAS, the Confederate Rest Area remains City owned and the gravesites and monuments contained in and around the area are owned by, and maintained by, the City; and,

WHEREAS, following the end of the Civil War in 1865 and the abolition of slavery, the freed slaves, others persons of color and their descendants faced a whole new system of legal, economic and social oppression in the form of Black Codes, or Jim Crow Laws. These laws, enacted throughout the south, and to some degree in the north, were designed to keep intact the subjugation of blacks. Even fifty-three years after the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the impacts of these laws are still being felt in America; and,

WHEREAS, sometime in the early 1930s, the United Daughters of the Confederacy were allowed to donate and erect a stone monument in the Confederate Rest Area in honor of those buried there (the "UDC Monument"); and,

WHEREAS, the Southern Poverty Law Center lists the United Daughters of the Confederacy as a neo-Confederate group, and the group itself, through the erection of monuments throughout the United States, subscribes to the "Lost Cause" movement, which attempts to alter history to paint Confederate soldiers as heroic figures, rather than rebellious traitors on the wrong side of history and humanity. Moreover, the United Daughters of the Confederacy has aligned itself with white supremacists and racists in its effort to obfuscate the truth that the south fought the Civil War to preserve slavery and segregation; and,

WHEREAS, in 1982, the City allowed a small monument to be donated and erected just outside of the Confederate Rest Area that, while attempting to provide some history about the individuals buried there, perpetuates the Lost Cause myth that these Confederate soldiers were "valiant" and "unsung heroes", and makes no mention of the role slavery played in their rebellion and the tyranny and unjustness that they fought to preserve (the "CSA Plaque Monument"); and,

WHEREAS, following the slaying of nine African-Americans at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charlestown, SC in 2015 by a white supremacist who idolized the Confederate battle flag, efforts were undertaken throughout the Country to reexamine the continued display of Confederate symbols. South Carolina, long a defender of the display of the battle flag, removed a confederate flag pole from its statehouse. Madison itself reexamined its policies at Forest Hills Cemetery, removing the City-owned flag pole in the Confederate Rest Area and altering its graveside flag policy so that the display of the Confederate flag in the

Cemetery was no longer allowed. In addition, states and municipalities began to question the display of other Lost Cause related statues and monuments, and the appropriateness of these representations of hate, tyranny and oppression; and,

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2017, white supremacists, white nationalists, neo-Confederates, neo-Nazis and other far-right hate groups gathered in Charlottesville, Virginia, for the Unite the Right Rally to protest the proposed removal of a statue of Robert E. Lee that was erected in a City park nearly 60 years after the end of the Civil War as part of the Lost Cause movement. During the event, in an act of domestic terrorism, counter protesters were viciously attacked by a neo-Nazi, leaving one dead and nineteen injured; and,

WHEREAS, following Charlestown and Charlottesville, attention has been directed to the Lost Cause monuments throughout the Country, including in Forest Hills Cemetery where the CSA Plaque Monument has been removed and is in storage; **and,**

WHEREAS, the Commissions identified in this resolution have met and considered alternative treatments of the monuments and made recommendations to the Council,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the City of Madison does not support the efforts and messages of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, neo-Confederates and other Lost Cause propagandists to celebrate the Confederate States of America and its dead, such support being another part of the Black Codes and other efforts to perpetuate the economic, social and legal subjugation of African-Americans and other peoples of color in the United States; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as the owners of Forest Hills Cemetery, the Confederate Rest Area, and the UDC and CSA Plaque Monuments, the City has an obligation to the visitors at Forest Hills Cemetery and the citizens of this City, to reexamine the continued display of these monuments and the message that these monuments convey and support; and,

BE FINALLY **FURTHER** RESOLVED, that the Board of Parks Commissioners, through their authority under Madison General Ordinances Section 8.11, the Landmarks Commission, through its authority over Forest Hills Cemetery under Madison General Ordinances Chapter 41, and the Equal Opportunities Commission shall jointly meet to consider the following three options with regard to the two Lost Cause monuments in Forest Hill Cemetery: whether to take down and permanently remove the two Lost Cause monuments, whether to leave the monuments in place but alter the messages contained therein, and whether to leave one or both of the Lost Cause monuments in the Cemetery but erect a new monument providing detail of the false narrative of the Lost Cause and the role these monuments play in that effort.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Common Council determines that the Confederate monuments will be treated in the following manner:

1. The CSA Plaque Monument previously removed shall be offered by the City to the State Historical Society or the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, but not to any private entity. If neither the Historical Society nor the Veterans Museum accepts the Plaque, it will remain in storage under the control of the Parks Division.

2. The Cenotaph (the large monument within the burial area) shall be removed from the burial area of the Confederate Rest. The Cenotaph shall be offered by the City to the State Historical Society or the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, but not to any private entity. If neither the Historical Society nor the Veterans Museum accepts the Cenotaph, it will remain in storage under the control of the Parks Division.



Madison Parks Division

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Room 104
Madison, WI 53703
608-266-4711 • cityofmadison.com/parks



Mr. Michael Telzrow, Museum Director
Wisconsin Veterans Museum
30 W. Mifflin St
Madison, WI 53706

July 6, 2018

Dear Mr. Telzrow:

On April 10, 2018, The City of Madison Common Council voted to remove two monuments in Forest Hill Cemetery's Confederate Rest. The first and smaller monument was removed by Parks Division staff following orders from Mayor Soglin in August 2017. The larger cenotaph remains in place as the Parks Division seeks proper approvals and makes plans for its removal.

The resolution also states that, once removed, the monuments are to *"be offered to the State Historical Society or the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, but not to any private entity."* The purpose of this letter is to formally offer the two monuments to the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.

I have attached photos of the two monuments for your reference.

Please let me know if you are interested in accepting either or both of these monuments. I am happy to answer any questions you may have. You may contact me by phone at (608) 843-2375 or email llaschinger@cityofmadison.com.

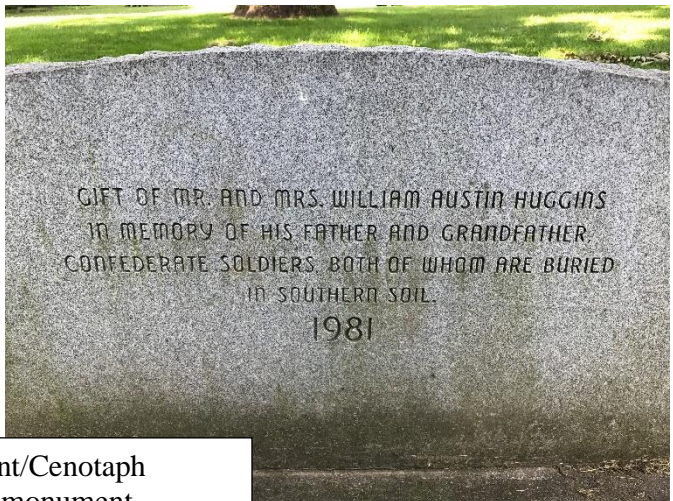
Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa M Laschinger".

Lisa M Laschinger
Parks Operations Manager

Enclosure

Forest Hill Cemetery Confederate Monuments



Small Monument/Cenotaph
Left: Front of monument
Right: Back inscription



Madison Parks Division

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Room 104
Madison, WI 53703
608-266-4711 • cityofmadison.com/parks



Mr. Joseph Kapler, Lead Curator
Wisconsin Historical Society
816 State St
Madison, WI 53706

July 6, 2018

Dear Mr. Kapler:

On April 10, 2018, The City of Madison Common Council voted to remove two monuments in Forest Hill Cemetery's Confederate Rest. The first and smaller monument was removed by Parks Division staff following orders from Mayor Soglin in August 2017. The larger cenotaph remains in place as the Parks Division seeks proper approvals and makes plans for its removal.

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Please let me know if you are interested in accepting either or both of these monuments. I am happy to answer any questions you may have. You may contact me by phone at (608) 843-2375 or email llaschinger@cityofmadison.com.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa M Laschinger".

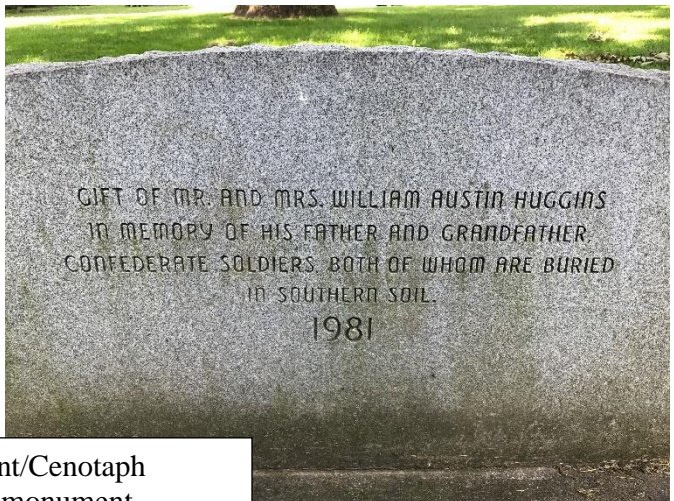
Lisa M Laschinger
Parks Operations Manager

Enclosure

Forest Hill Cemetery Confederate Monuments



Large Monument/Cenotaph



Small Monument/Cenotaph
Left: Front of monument
Right: Back inscription

City of Madison Landmarks Commission
 LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (1)

I. Name of Building or Site	
(1) Common Forest Hill Cemetery	(2) Historic (if applicable) Forest Hill Cemetery
II. Location	
(1) Street Address 1 Speedway Road	(2) Ward (available @ City Clerk) Tenth Aldermanic District
III. Classification	
(1) Type of Property (building, monument, park, etc.) Cemetery	
(2) Zoning District Conservancy	(3) Present Use Cemetery
IV. Current Owner of Property (available at City Assessor's office)	
(1) Name(s) City of Madison - Parks	
(2) Street Address 215 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Madison, WI 53709	(3) Telephone Number 266-4711
V. Legal Description (available at City Assessor's office)	
(1) Parcel Number 0709-214-0501-9	(2) Legal Description See attached
VI. Condition of Property	
(1) Physical Condition (excellent, good, fair, deteriorated, ruins) Good	
(2) Altered or Unaltered? Altered	(3) Moved or Original Site? Original site
(4) Wall Construction Not applicable	
(5) On a separate sheet of paper, describe the present and original physical construction and appearance (limit 500 words).	

Landmark Nomination
Forest Hill Cemetery
Legal Description

All that part of E 1/2 of NW 1/4 and W 1/2 of NE 1/4 of Section 28 lying North of right-of-way of Illinois Central Railroad and North of the 50 feet strip of land parallel to SD right-of-way and adjoining SD right-of-way and owned by SD Railroad. Being 60 acres more or less. Also a parcel of land lying in SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 21 and lying South of the Mineral Point Road. Also a parcel of land in W 1/2 of SE 1/4 of Section 21 lying South of the Mineral Point Road, Forest Hill Cemetery and Municipal Golf Course.

Sketch map

Forest Hill Cemetery Mausoleum

1 Speedway Road, Madison, Wis. 53705
OFFICE HOURS 7:30 TO 4
SATURDAYS 9 TO 11
(608) 266 4720

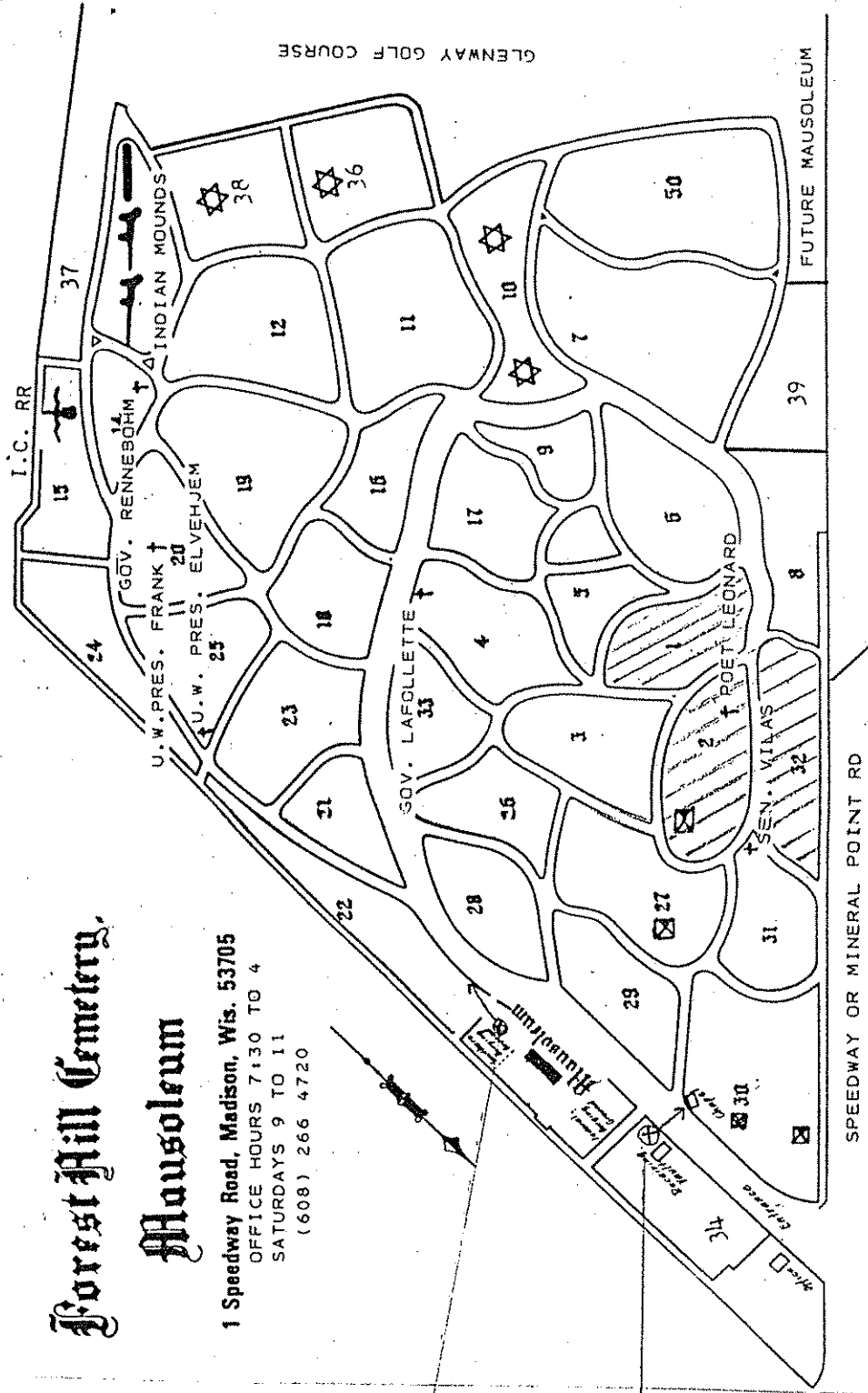
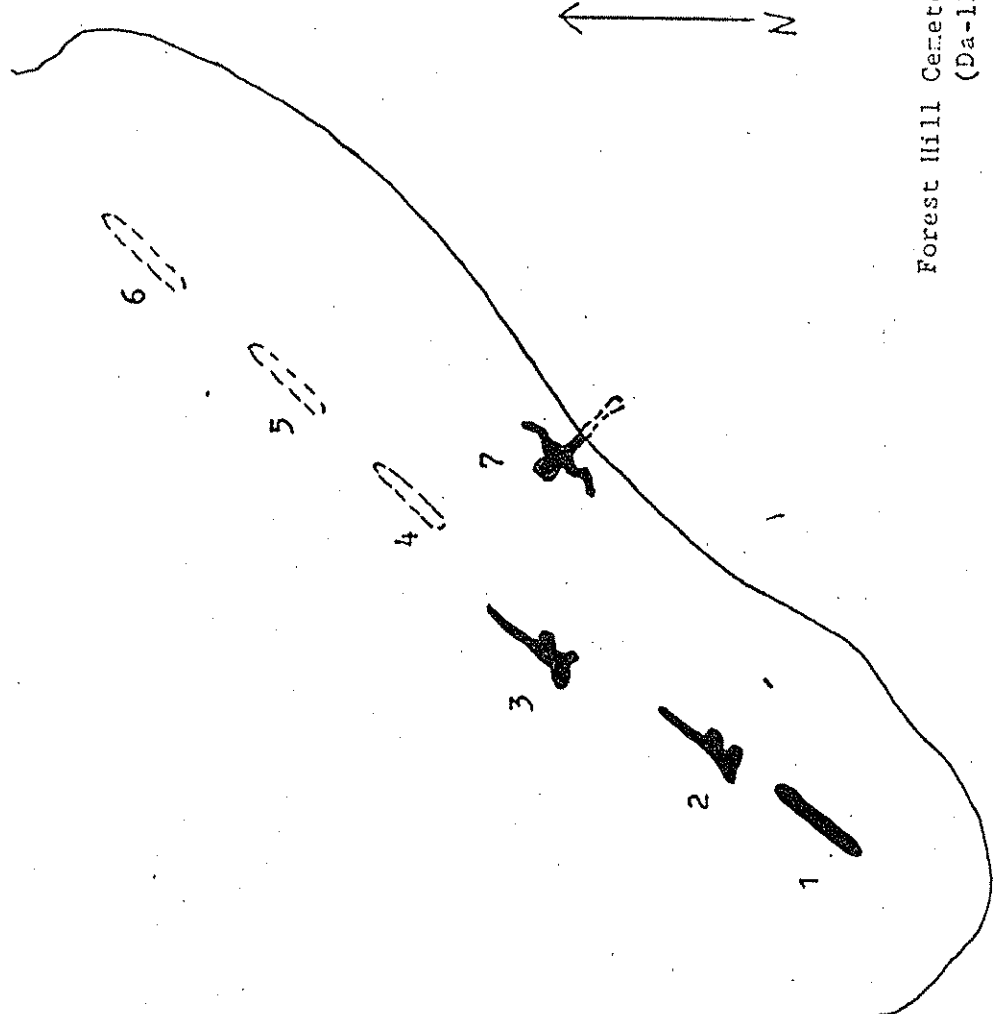


Photo 2

Photo 1

oldest sections - platted Summer 1859



Forest Hill Cemetery Mound Group
(Da-134)

--- = Destroyed mound or portion of mound

82.5
ft

City of Madison Landmarks Commission
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (2)

VI.(5) Describe Present and Original Physical Construction and Appearance:

Owned by the City of Madison, Forest Hill Cemetery is located on a wooded, gently rolling site about two-and-one-half miles west of the Capitol Square. Describing the area in 1837, one observer wrote, ". . .the land rises gently all around its [Lake Mendota's] margin, receding and rising gradually into a gentle eminence, for about a mile from the lake, and the whole of this lovely shore is studded and adorned with spots of wood and thick groves, giving the idea of the park scenery in England, or the rich views of Italy. . ."

In 1858, the year after the City acquired the land from John and Maria Wright, Madison Mayor George B. Smith described the location as "a choice and beautiful one. It is high and sightly, overlooking the entire City and surrounding lakes. No more appropriate place could be selected for the burial of the dead. . ." A thousand years earlier, Woodland Indians had built a group of seven effigy mounds on the site. (The Forest Hill Cemetery Mound Group, Da-134, was added to the National Register in 1974).

The highest point in the cemetery is about 100 feet above the level of Lake Mendota, visible to the northeast, and Lake Wingra, to the southeast. An 1859 description identified the site as "high rolling ground...handsomely ornamented with Oak and other shade trees." Although nature and routine maintenance undoubtedly have altered the site's original vegetation, oak canopies still exist throughout the cemetery.

This park-like landscape proved the ideal setting for Forest Hill's "rural" cemetery plan, patterned after those so popular in the mid-19th century throughout the United States.

From the main entrance on Speedway Road at the cemetery's northeast corner, a broad avenue leads southward and gradually uphill past the John Catlin Memorial Chapel, a High Victorian Gothic structure built in 1878 in honor of one of Madison's early settlers. Just across the avenue and southeast of the chapel is the cemetery's receiving vault. Both the Catlin chapel and the receiving vault are built of yellow sandstone, a popular locally-quarried material in the mid-19th century.

Landmark Nomination
Forest Hill Cemetery
Description, continued

Just past the chapel, the avenue forks; turning right (west) leads one to the cemetery's highest point and a network of curvilinear drives which define the cemetery's oldest sections. Sections 1, 2, 32 and a part of Section 3 were marked off into lots in the Summer of 1859. Here are found the graves of many of Madison's most prominent families--early settlers, business owners and politicians.

The main avenue's left fork leads south past the Forest Hill Mausoleum, erected 1916. The mausoleum is flanked on the north by the Federal Burying Ground, where 287 veterans and soldiers' orphans lie. Just south of the mausoleum is "Confederate Rest", a plot surrounded by stone coping, where 139 Confederate prisoners of war who died at Camp Randall were buried in 1862. More recent soldiers' graves are located near the southern border of the cemetery, adjacent to the effigy mounds in Sections 15 and 35.

Near the western edge of the cemetery is Section 10, purchased by Madison's first Jewish congregation, Ahaweth Achim, in 1858. It contains the graves of some of Madison's earliest Jewish citizens.

Mounds

The Forest Hill Cemetery Mound Group once consisted of seven mounds: a line of six mounds made up from northeast to southwest of three linear mounds, two panther effigies and another linear. A short distance to the southeast of the center of this line was a single flying goose effigy. Expansion of the cemetery caused the destruction of the first three linears in the line sometime after 1905. The head and a portion of the neck of the goose were destroyed in 1886 in grading of the Illinois Central right-of-way. According to a letter written by Charles E. Brown in 1928, all of the mounds had been dug into by relic hunters, but Brown does not specify the amount of damage done. The mounds have been restored and today no traces of the vandalism remains. The head of the goose has not been restored. No professional excavation was done in these mounds.

Although the mounds are surrounded by the graves of recent Madisonians, none of them have had burials intruded into them.

City of Madison Landmarks Commission
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (3)

VII. Significance

(1) Original Owner

City of Madison

(2) Original Use

Cemetery

(3) Architect or Builder

Plan by William M. Hough

(4) Architectural Style

Not applicable

(5) Date of Construction

1857-1862

(6) Indigenous Materials Used

Sandstone on older buildings

(7) On a separate sheet of paper, describe the significance of the nominated property and its conformance to the designation criteria of the Landmarks Commission Ordinance (33.01), limit of 500 words.

VIII. List of Bibliographical References Used

1. Butterfield, Consul Wilshire, ed. 1880. History of Dane County, Wisconsin...
Chicago: Western Historical Company, 761.
2. Common Council, City of Madison. 1858-1862. Common Council Proceedings.
3. Madison: City of Madison.
4. 18 June 1856
- 5 April 1858
5. 24 May 1858
- 4 April 1859
6. 17 April 1860
- 15 April 1862
7. Daily Argus and Democrat (Madison, Wisconsin)
8. 1858. Item on laying out of cemetery grounds. 12 March.

(Continued)

IX. Form Prepared By:

(1) Name and Title

Susan Haswell, Project Assistant and Katherine Rankin, Preservation Planner

(2) Organization Represented (if any)

UW Dept. of Landscape Architecture and City of Madison

(3) Address

25 Agriculture Hall
Madison, WI 53706

(4) Telephone Number

231-6880

(5) Date Nomination Form Was Prepared

September 28, 1989

Landmark Nomination
Forest Hill Cemetery

Bibliographic References, continued:

1858. "Died". William M. Hough obituary.
18 December, 3.

Ferslew, W. L. E., 1858. Madison City directory and business advertiser. Madison: Bliss, Eberhard & Festner, 22.

Heggland, Timothy F., 1987. The University Heights District: A walking tour. Madison: Madison Landmarks Commission and Regent Neighborhood Association, 2.

Mollenhoff, David V., 1982. Madison: A history of the formative years. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, 200.

Zanger, Jules, 1980. Mount Auburn Cemetery: The silent suburb. Landscape 24 (2): 23-28.

Halsey, John R., original Forest Hill Cemetery mound group landmark nomination, March 10, 1975, in possession of the Madison Landmarks Commission.

City of Madison Landmarks Commission
LANDMARKS AND LANDMARK SITES NOMINATION FORM (4)

VII.(7) Significance of Nominated Property and Conformance to Designation Criteria:

Forest Hill Cemetery has significance in the development of American landscape architecture as a manifestation of the nationwide rural cemetery movement.

A uniquely American phenomenon, the rural cemetery movement began in 1831 with the creation of Mount Auburn Cemetery near Cambridge, Massachusetts. A group of prominent Bostonians who were dismayed by the City's crowded, unsanitary graveyards established a new cemetery outside the City limits, intending it to be not only a burial ground but an experimental garden, as well. Mount Auburn was "one of the first self-consciously conceived, fully controlled, permanent public landscapes in America." (Zanger 1980, 23)

Visitors by the thousands flocked to Mount Auburn, strolling its 30 miles of serpentine carriage avenues and footpaths, picnicking, and enjoying vistas of grand tombs, monuments and ornamental plantings. Over the next few decades, rural cemeteries appeared in almost every major American city--Philadelphia's Laurel Hill (1836), Brooklyn's Green-Wood (1838), and Chicago's Graceland (1860), to name but a few. Their overwhelming popularity signaled city dwellers' need for recreational space and gave impetus to the city parks movement.

Madison's first municipally-owned cemetery was located in Block 180 (now Orton Park, added to the National Register in 1977). After only a few years in operation, the 3.5-acre site was filling up fast. In 1856, citizens urged the Madison Common Council to locate a new cemetery outside the city limits. (Common Council Proceedings, 18 June 1856)

In January 1857, the City purchased a rural, 80-acre tract from John and Maria Wright for \$10,000 in City bonds. The Common Council adopted the name "Forest Hill" in December 1858.

Although originally located outside the city limits, Forest Hill shares the fate of many rural cemeteries, having become surrounded by development. Rural cemeteries also may be identified by their site-sensitive plans, in which paths and drives usually follow the topography in a curvilinear fashion. Sites often were chosen for their scenic qualities, providing vistas where visitors could rest and contemplate. Many rural cemetery designers consciously attempted to create an environment that would provide an uplifting or inspiring experience for visitors, reflecting a change in cultural attitudes towards death which evolved during the Victorian era.

Landmark Nomination
Forest Hill Cemetery
Statement of Significance, continued

Forest Hill was designed by Madison's City Surveyor, William Moseley Hough (1803-1858), a Connecticut native who came to Madison in the Spring of 1853. (Daily Argus and Democrat, 18 December 1858) Prior to becoming a surveyor and civil engineer, Hough had been a teacher and principal in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York State. He began laying out the cemetery in March 1858 (Daily Argus and Democrat, 12 March 1858), but died that December, before his design could be executed.

The task was completed by Augustus Ligowsky, City Surveyor from April 1859 to April 1860. (Butterfield 1880, 761) The Common Council paid Ligowsky \$224 in March 1862 "for surveying and making a large map of the cemetery ground," but the map apparently no longer exists. (Common Council Proceedings, 15 April 1862) According to a Madison City ordinance, the official map of Forest Hill is one drawn by O. H. St.G. Anson in 1902.

Hough's plat was presented to the Common Council on May 24, 1858, but it also apparently no longer exists. (Common Council Proceedings, 24 May 1858) If a planting plan for Forest Hill ever existed, it also has disappeared. The earliest landscaping efforts consisted of cutting brush and firewood, the income from which funded further improvements. Prominent Madison architect Stephen Vaughn Shipman provided plans and specifications for an entrance gate, for which he was paid \$19. (Common Council Proceedings, 4 April 1859) Construction of the gate and a fence was nearly complete by April 1859, but the project was slowed by lack of funds to pay the workmen's wages. Despite constant funding problems, the chairman of the Common Council's cemetery committee, Darwin Clark, remained confident that "...for beauty, location and design [Forest Hill] will compare favorably with the noted eastern cemeteries." (Common Council Proceedings, 4 April 1859)

Apparently, no trace of the original gate or fence remains, and without Hough's or Ligowsky's maps, it is impossible to determine to what extent the original plan has been altered. But its rural location and topographically sensitive, curvilinear plan positively identify Forest Hill as a rural cemetery.

Forest Hill has further significance in Madison's landscape history because it was the City's first curvilinear plan. Not until 1893 was there another curvilinear plat in Madison--University Heights, a residential subdivision. (Heggland 1987, 2)

In addition to its significance in landscape architecture, Forest Hill contains the graves of several persons of transcendent importance in local, state and national history. Among those with a national reputation are historian Frederick Jackson Turner (1861-1932); Progressive Party leader Robert M. LaFollette, Sr.

Landmark Nomination
Forest Hill Cemetery
Statement of Significance, continued

(1855-1925); and humanitarian Cordelia Harvey (1824-1895), who was instrumental in establishing military hospitals in the north during the Civil War. Several Wisconsin governors are buried at Forest Hill, as well as a number of University of Wisconsin administrators and faculty.

"Confederate Rest" also is historically significant as one of the northernmost Confederate burial grounds.

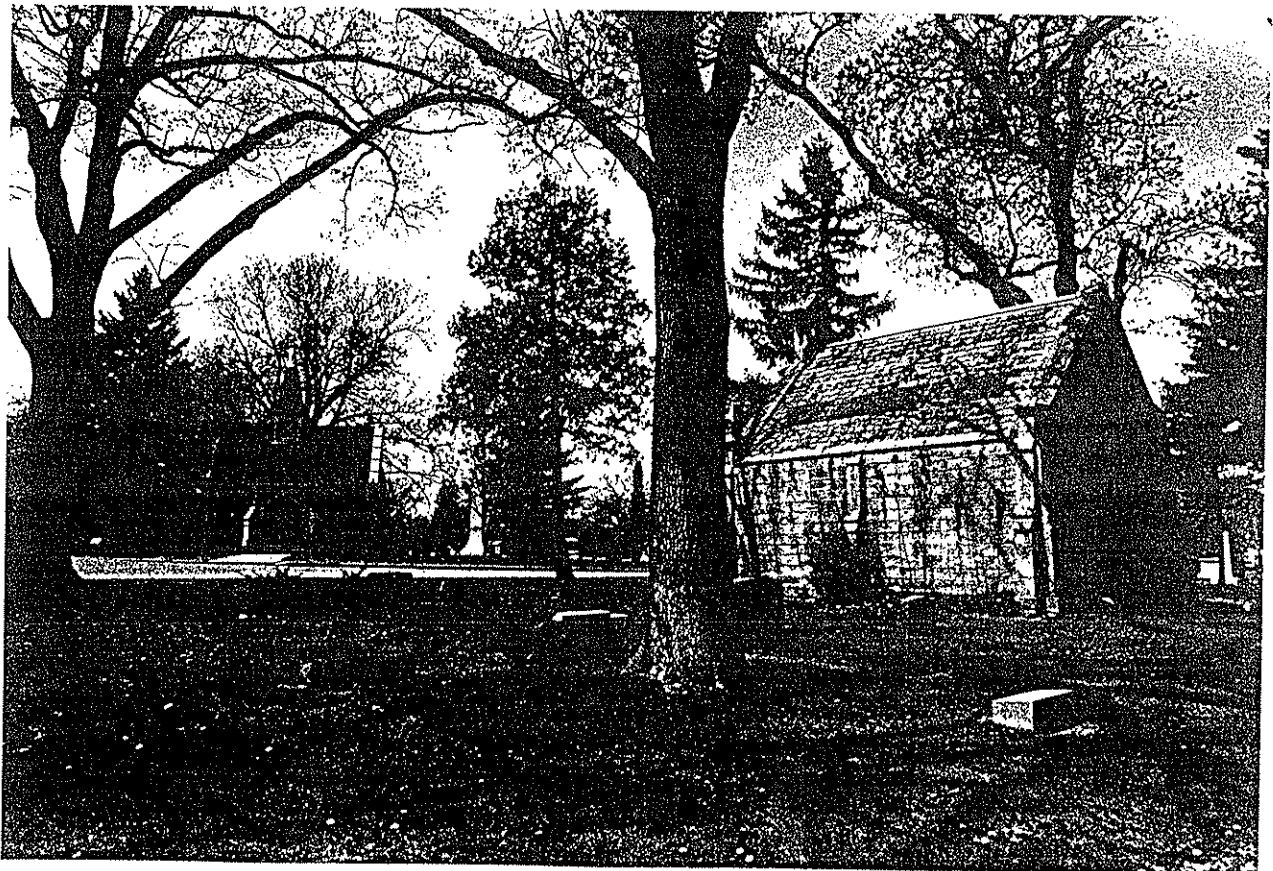
Mounds

The surviving mounds of the Forest Hill Cemetery Mound Group are among the finest existing examples of effigy mounds left in the City of Madison. For definition and clarity of form they are excellent. It is especially fortunate to have most of the goose effigy preserved as this was always a rare form. The extent to which these effigy mounds might owe their extraordinary state of preservation to restoration is unknown. It does not seriously differ from mounds which have never been plowed.

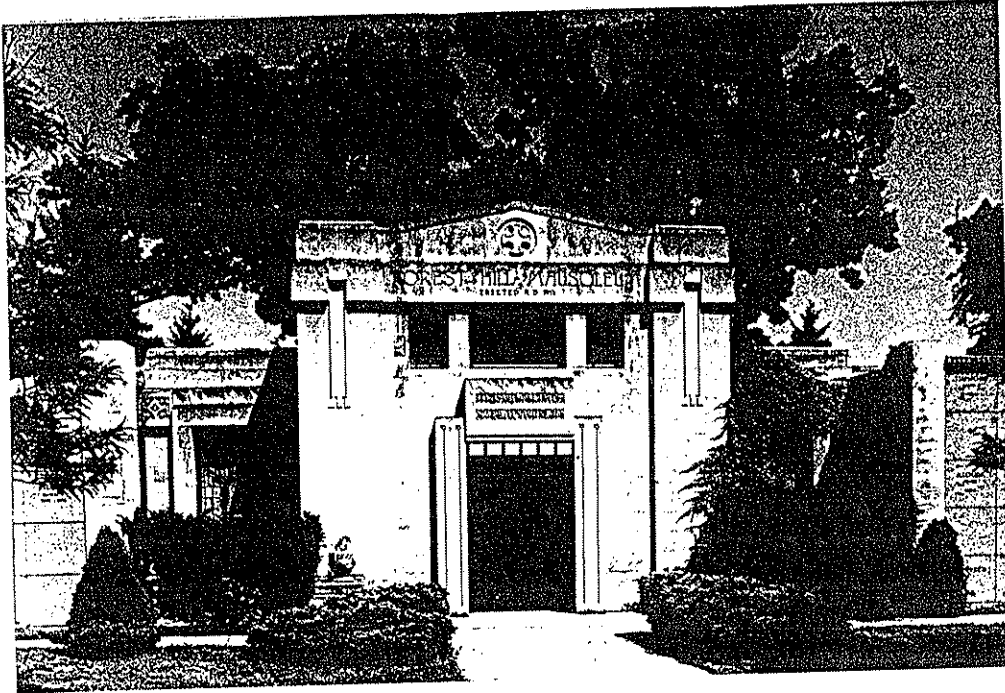
After a tragic beginning when three of the mounds were destroyed by insensitive cemetery expansion, these effigy burial mounds which were probably erected between A. D. 500 and A. D. 1000 have co-existed with the graves of hundreds of 19th and 20th century Madisonians without further disturbance. Although they are surrounded by recent interments, the mounds have not had recent burials intruded into them. Located as they are in the midst of Madison's most historic cemetery, these remnants of the Effigy Mound Tradition seem as likely to survive as any archeological or historical sites in the state.



General View



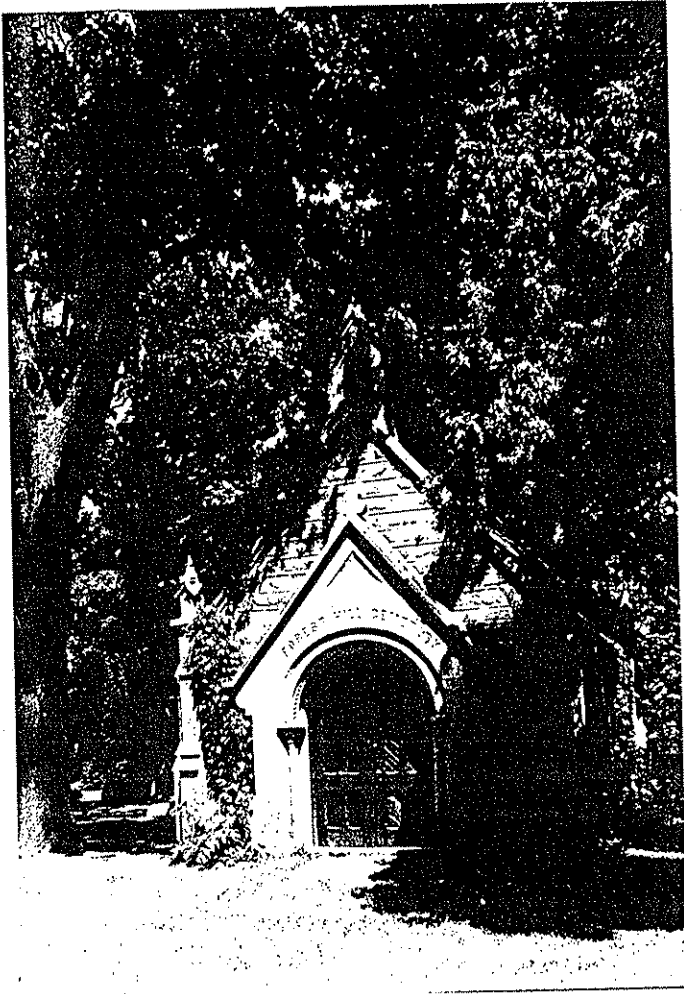
Original Crypt and Catlin Chapel



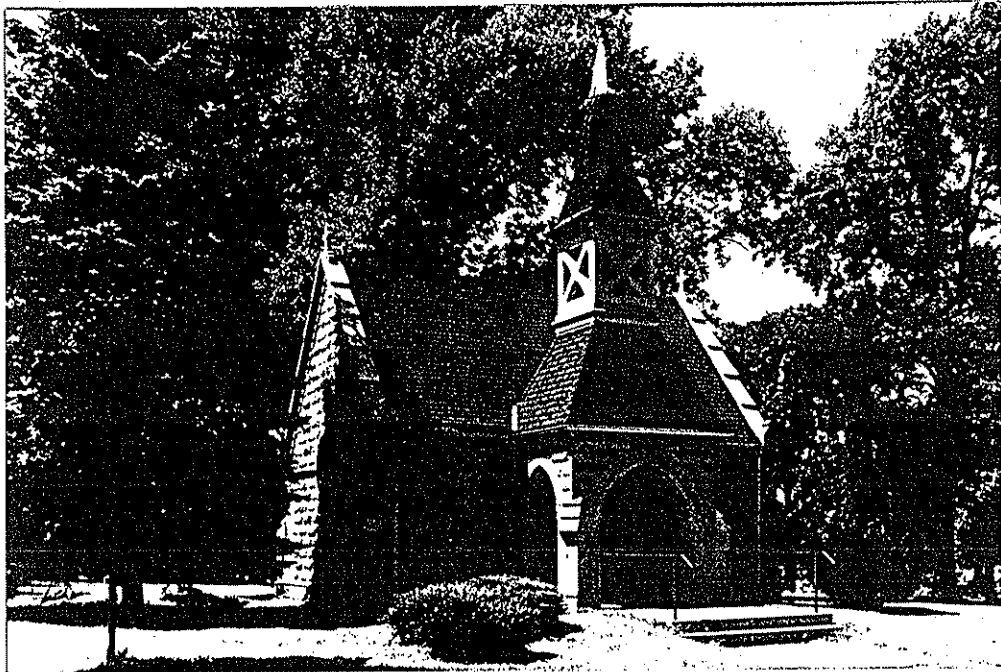
Mausoleum, built 1916



One of the military sections



Original cemetery crypt



John Catlin Memorial Chapel, 1878