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# Luper Pioneer Cemetery: A Cultural Landscape Report

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Benjamin D. Stinnett

A Terminal Project

Presented to the Interdisciplinary Studies Program:  
Historic Preservation  
and the Graduate School of the University of Oregon  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
for the degree of  
Master of Science

June 2014

[Redacted]

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University of Oregon Historic Preservation Program

Terminal Project Approval Page

Student: Benjamin Stinnett

Title: Luper Pioneer Cemetery: A Cultural Landscape Report

This Terminal Project has been accepted and approved in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Science degree in the Historic Preservation Program by:

Committee Chairperson: *A. Woodberry* Date: 6.15.14

Committee Member: *Laurie Matthews* Date: 6.13.14

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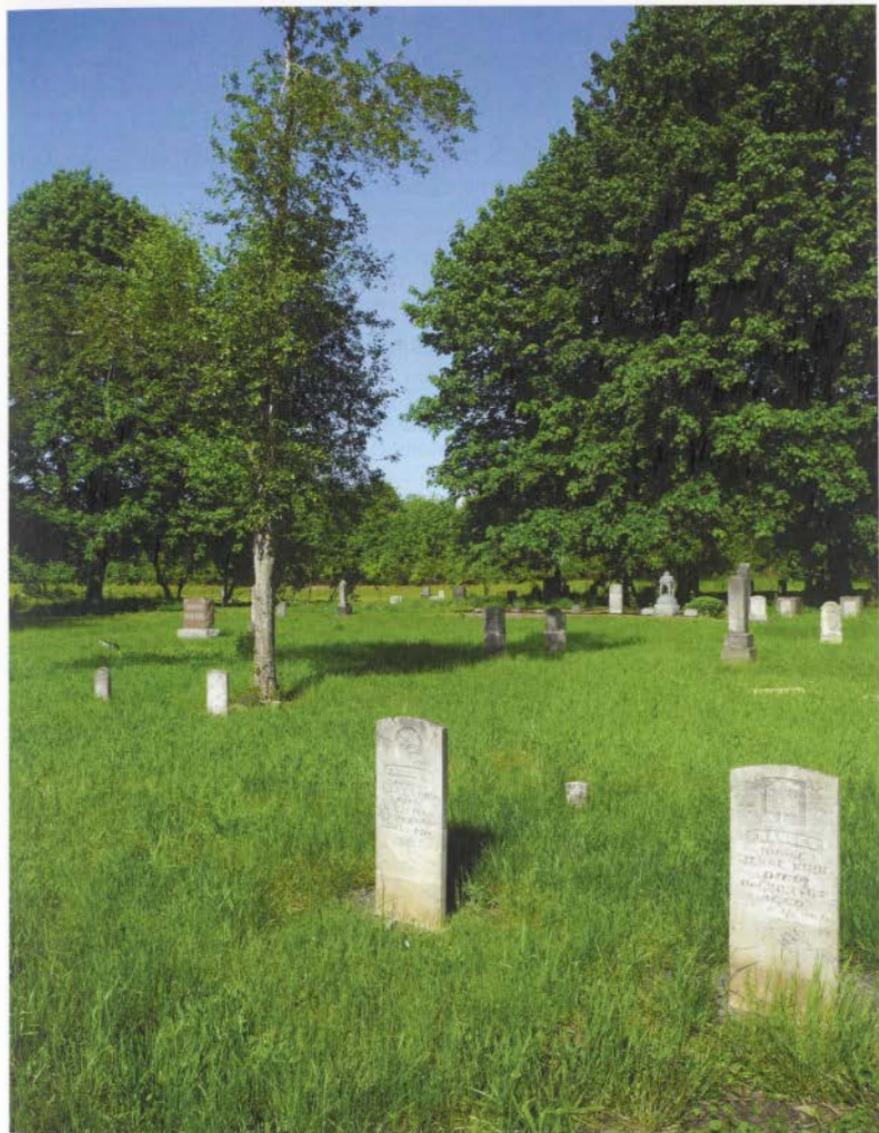
Degree awarded: June, 2014

### Acknowledgements

Many kind and knowledgeable individuals have helped with the realization of this Cultural Landscape Report for the Luper Pioneer Cemetery. My committee members--Anne Godfrey at the University of Oregon, and Laurie Matthews, Director of Preservation Planning and Design at MIG, in Portland, Oregon provided much needed advise and edits throughout the writing process. Luper Pioneer Cemetery Inc. and volunteers were very insightful and helpful thoroughout the research and documentation process. I have greatly appreciated their support throughout the past six months as my research and documentation progressed. The opportunity to work with the non-profit board and volunteers in their ongoing efforts to preserve and interpret the landscape and history of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery for visitors and future generations has been an incredible experience. I hope that my research and documentation will provide a basis for their future endeavors. The assistance of Chris Laswell, Russ Carrey, and Stu Chilvers was enormously helpful in completing the large amount of detailed fieldwork needed to inventory and document the entire two acre cemetery landscape and its features, both natural and cultural. The guidance of Kimball Erdman at the University of Arkansas, and Kevin McCardle at Yosemite National Park has been invaluable throughout my graduate studies. I would like to thank my University of Oregon Historic Preservation cohort and friends--and finally my family who have provided much needed support throughout my studies.

### Foreword

This report was prepared in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Historic Preservation at the University of Oregon. The author hopes that the document will serve as a valuable resource for Luper Cemetery Inc., the managing not-for-profit organization, volunteers, and future researchers. As was unfortunately witnessed in the fall of 2009, rural cemeteries such as Luper are fragile, subject to vandalism and gross negligence. The author hopes that the Cultural Landscape Report for the Luper Pioneer Cemetery will provide useful documentation of the the landscape conditions witnessed at the site in the spring of 2014.



(Author, 2014)



## Table of Contents

Chapter	Page
I. INTRODUCTION.....	1
Historic Overview and Context.....	1
Purpose, Scope, and Methodology.....	7
II. LUPER PIONEER CEMETERY SITE HISTORY.....	15
Geology.....	15
Pre-Contact.....	16
Oregon Trail/Westward Migration.....	18
Arrival of Oregon and California Railroad.....	20
Luper Pioneer Cemetery Early History Ca. 1853-1947.....	20
Luper Pioneer Cemetery Ca. 1948 to Present.....	23
III. EXISTING CONDITIONS.....	38
Regional Context.....	39
Landscape Character.....	40
Spatial Organization.....	40
Environmental Conditions.....	43
Circulation.....	44
Views and Vistas.....	45
Structures.....	46
Small Scale Landscape Features.....	48
Plantings.....	49
IV. ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION.....	52
Overview of National Register Criterion.....	53
Period of Significance Ca. 1857 to 1957.....	56
Overview of Landscape Integrity.....	58
Evaluation of Integrity.....	59
Location.....	59
Design.....	60
Setting.....	62
Materials.....	65
Workmanship.....	67
Feeling.....	68
Association.....	68
Cultural Landscape Evaluation.....	70
V. TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS.....	78
Landscape Treatment Exploration.....	78
Landscape Treatment Recommendation: Preservation.....	83
Management Zones.....	84
Zone 1: Entry Sequence.....	85
Zone 2: Interpretation and Cemetery Buffer.....	86
Zone 3: Historic Luper Cemetery.....	87

	Page
Treatment Recommendations and Justification.....	88
Documentation.....	97
Conclusion.....	97

#### APPENDICES

- A. Bibliography
- B. Cemetery Zoning Diagram
- C. Cemetery Plot Map
- D. Photo Documentation
- E. Cemetery Inventory Forms (Digital)

## Chapter 1 – Introduction

Upon arriving in the Willamette Valley by way of the Oregon Trail in the nineteenth century, settlers began to sculpt the landscape. These settlers converted the widespread prairie and marshland into



The ca. 1857 Luper Pioneer Cemetery located near Eugene, Oregon. (S. Boulton, 2013)

to valuable agricultural land. The pioneers found themselves in an unfamiliar landscape far from the Midwest and eastern United States from which they had come. Death and sickness in the early and mid nineteenth century were ever-present reminders of mortality for the early

settlers. As a result, the creation of cemeteries was a necessary step in settling the Willamette Valley. Thousands of cemeteries were created during this period. These cemeteries came in many sizes, some being for an individual or family, others serving as the final resting place for members of a community. Of the thousands of early cemeteries that were located throughout the Willamette Valley, some have been lost to time or closed to new burials, others continue to be used.

### Willamette Valley Cemeteries Overview

Historic rural cemeteries in the Willamette Valley of northern Oregon are complex in their needs for preservation and landscape



Luper Cemetery Prior to 2009 Cleanup (Unknown, Russ Carrey Binder, 2009)

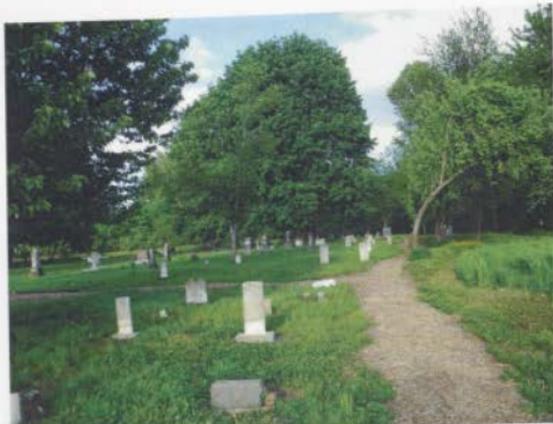


Luper Cemetery following major 2009 vandalism event. (KVAL News, Photographer Unknown, 2009)

management. These settlement era landscapes are emblematic of the challenges that historic cemeteries face on a national scale. Rural cemeteries are constantly faced with the very real threat of theft, vandalism, and desecration. In the decades after their creation, cemeteries in the Willamette Valley were cared for by the families, descendants, and nearby communities. As the many decades passed, many early pioneer families moved away and direct descendants passed away. The

cemeteries were largely forgotten, and in some cases have been lost to time. The maintenance responsibilities at small cemeteries transferred to local and regional municipalities, or received no maintenance other than immediate families and descendants clearing their family member's burial plot once or twice a year. Through

the lack of basic landscape maintenance, burial markers in these settlement era pioneer cemeteries have been allowed to decay as a result of vandalism and environmental weathering. Some Willamette Valley cemeteries and the names of their inhabitants have been lost to time as the burial markers have become heavily weathered, broken or even stolen by vandals.



Luper Cemetery (Author, 2014)

Due to the weathering and destruction of settlement era cemeteries in the Willamette Valley, there is a strong need for documentation to ensure for further preservation.

Cemeteries are important cultural landscapes that serve as primary sources for genealogical and community histories. Through

the documentation and completion of a Cultural Landscape Report for the Luper Cemetery, preservation guidelines can be established for the long-term protection and stabilization of the historic cemetery landscape.



Bond and Robertson Family Plots  
(Author, 2014)

### Luper Cemetery

Luper Pioneer Cemetery, also known as Irving and Baker Cemetery, is located in northern Lane County near Irving, Oregon in the southern Willamette Valley. The two-acre cemetery was established Ca. 1857 although burials are reported to have taken place on the site as early as 1843.

The earliest extant marker at

Luper Cemetery dates from Ca. 1857. The cemetery was first set aside for the purpose of burials in 1865 when Milton T. Aubrey deeded



Bond Family Plots (Author, 2014)

communities of Irving, Luper, and Junction City. Luper Cemetery saw active use from the 1870s through the turn of the century and into the 1930s. The cemetery grew organically through its early history.



Heavily fragmented "J.A.Y." marker (Author, 2014)

Several families including the Bonds, Bakers, and Bushnells, and Newmans had sections of the cemetery that were a short distance from each other. These early burials were placed in rough linear rows organically emanating from the oldest burials.

The early organization remained in practice throughout much of the early years of the cemetery's growth and development. Over time individuals and smaller families from the surrounding communities

<sup>1</sup> Cemetery Deed Milton Aubrey to Thomas Tucker et. Al, Lane County Oregon, 1865



Luper Cemetery (Author, 2014)

began to fill the available spaces between the larger family plots. As a result the cemetery experienced a slow organic growth that developed into the vernacular landscape that is seen today. The locations of the early burials some, which were possibly marked by fieldstones and wooden monuments, and others unmarked, were likely remembered through

oral tradition and family histories, but were largely unrecorded. No historic plot maps have been discovered to indicate the locations of these early burials. As a result, of burial locations being part of the lost oral tradition and markers being disturbed or lost, the locations of more than 30 burials have become lost to time as family members with knowledge of the burials died, or left the region. The degradation of possible unrecorded wooden markers, the use of unmarked fieldstones, and vandalism further compounded the loss with no obvious above ground vestiges remaining. A topographic depression study was completed in 2011 by cemetery board members. The large numbers of trees that have grown on the site during its extended period of abandonment and evidence of active burrowing by animals within the boundaries of the cemetery have likely heavily altered the appearance of the ground plane. Some depressions line up with extant markers but their association with the burials is unknown.<sup>2</sup>

Out of the more than 160 burials that were documented through family

<sup>2</sup> Steve and Merilee Boulton, Cemetery Depression Survey, unpublished, 2011.

histories and obituaries as having occurred within the cemetery, 133 are extant. By the 1950s the cemetery began to fall into disrepair. Burials continued to take place, but the site was described as being overgrown in several recordation projects that took place in the 1950s through the 1990s. In recent years the cemetery has been repaired and maintained by Luper Cemetery Inc., a not-for-profit organization composed of descendants of the families buried in the cemetery, and concerned community members.



Old Maple and adjacent agricultural landscape (Author, 2014)

Throughout its long history, the Luper Cemetery landscape has evolved as time has passed. Extant burials dating from the 1850s through the mid 1990s are representative of changing cultural views on burial marker materiality, design, and iconography. The natural landscape has also evolved

as family relatives and descendants introduced ornamental plantings into the landscape. The location of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery outside the Eugene Urban Growth Boundary has allowed the cemetery's historic rural setting to be retained even with the construction of the Eugene/Springfield sanitary sewer and seasonal industrial waste disposal facility. The cemetery's setting, while idyllic and historic, has resulted in high levels of vandalism over the past sixty years that has permanently altered the historic landscape. Through the completion of a Cultural Landscape Report, the cemetery's contributing and non-contributing character defining features will be documented to allow for a better understanding of changes that have occurred to the

landscape throughout the site's history.

### **Purpose, Scope, and Methodology**

Cultural Landscape Reports are the principle documents used by landscape preservation professionals to record the history and existing conditions, determine the significance of the landscape, and recommend treatments for historic landscape management.<sup>3</sup> The reports evaluate the history and integrity of a landscape through the analysis of its geographic context, use, character defining features, and character defining materials. Since the emergence of cultural landscapes as a recognized resource in 1983, the National Park Service has served as the preeminent authority in setting professional standards for the documentation and management of significant cultural landscapes. The National Park Service defines Cultural Landscapes as:

Geographic areas (including both cultural and natural resources and the wildlife or domestic animals therein), associated with a historic event, activity, or person or exhibiting other cultural or aesthetic values.<sup>4</sup>

Cultural Landscapes are dynamic systems that can fall under one or more of the four primary categories. These categories are historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, and ethnographic landscapes. Designed Landscapes were consciously "laid out by a landscape architect, master gardener, architect or horticulturist according to design principles or an amateur gardener

3 Charles A. Birnbaum, "Preservation Briefs Planning, Treatment and Management of Historic Landscapes: 36 Protecting Cultural Landscapes," U.S. General Services Administration, September 5, 2012, accessed February 13, 2014, <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/112802>.

4 "Defining Landscape Terminology," National Park Service: Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes, accessed November 10, 2013, <http://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/landscape-guidelines/terminology.htm>.



Luper Cemetery (Author, 2014)

Landscapes are “significant for their association with a historic event, activity or person.<sup>7</sup> The final category is Ethnographic landscapes,



Old Maple and adjacent agricultural landscape (Author, 2014)

which contain “a variety of natural and cultural resources that the associated people define as heritage resources.” The Luper Pioneer Cemetery is both a vernacular and an ethnographic landscape. The cemetery is vernacular as its layout and appearance evolved organically as interments occurred for over 150 years. Luper Cemetery is also an

Ethnographic Landscape as the site is composed of cultural traditions.

The cemetery is a sacred space that serves as the final resting place

5 “What Are Cultural Landscapes?,” The Cultural Landscape Foundation, accessed February 13, 2014, <http://iclf.org/landscapes/what-are-cultural-landscapes>.

6 *ibid.*, What are Cultural Landscapes?

7 *ibid.*, What are Cultural Landscapes?



Memorial Day Celebration (Author, 2014)

for over 160 individuals, interred from Ca. 1857 through 1995 that came from varying backgrounds and ancestry. The interred lived, worked, and died in the surrounding communities and homesteads over a period of more than 150 years. While few in number, some descendants those interred at Luper Cemetery still live in the region and return to the cemetery to decorate family plots and pay their respect. The burials in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery are representative of more than 150 years of settlement history in the southern Willamette Valley.

The Cultural Landscape Report for the Luper Pioneer Cemetery

was developed in accordance to the guidelines set forth by the National Park Service in *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* compiled by Robert Page, Cathy Gilbert, and Susan Dolan. The guidelines provide the professionally accepted two-section format for organizing and writing cultural landscape reports in both the public and private landscape preservation realm. Section one of the two-part Cultural Landscape Report is comprised of the Site History, Existing Conditions, and both the Analysis and Evaluation. Section Two is comprised of the landscape treatment. The two-

section format will be distilled into five chapters: Introduction, Site History, Existing Conditions, Analysis and Evaluation, and Landscape Treatment. A list of sources cited and appendices will follow the five chapters. The Cultural Landscape Report will include historic and contemporary photographs, aerial imagery, and diagrams to describe site's history and existing conditions, analysis, and treatment.

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report will address four primary objectives. These objectives are as follows:

1. Document the vernacular layout and evolution of the landscape to inform management decisions regarding the nature and appropriateness of burial marker repair and replacement in order to minimize the loss or disturbance of significant characteristics, features, and materials.<sup>8</sup>
2. Document the changing historical appearance of character defining site features, including grave markers and footstones, vegetation, circulation, perimeter fence fencing and fence posts, and the broader landscape setting.<sup>9</sup>
3. Inventory and assess the condition of all burial markers and footstones, plantings both natural and introduced, and other contributing landscape features for use in future cemetery research and documentation projects.
4. Recommend treatment approaches for the short and long-term management of the Luper Cemetery historic landscape.<sup>10</sup>

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8 John Auwaerter, "Cultural Landscape Report for Poplar Grove National Cemetery: Petersburg National Battlefield," National Park Service, May 14, 2010, accessed February 20, 2014, [http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online\\_books/pete/popular\\_grove\\_clr.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/pete/popular_grove_clr.pdf).

9 Auwaerter, *ibid.*

10 Auwaerter, *ibid.*

The four objectives listed will be discussed in five chapters. The organization of chapters will be as follows:

*Chapter one* will be comprised of the project introduction, purpose, scope, and methodology. The Purpose, Scope and Methodology serve as the foundation for the Cultural Landscape Report.

*Chapter two* will be comprised of a landscape historical narrative that will provide insight into the development of the natural and cultural setting of the Luper Pioneer cemetery and surrounding region from prehistoric to the present day (2014). The cemetery historical narrative will include historic photographs and diagrams that will assist in visualizing the cemetery's evolution over a period of more than 150 years.

*Chapter three* will consist of a landscape narrative of the landscape's appearance will provide a narrative of the site's contributing and non-contributing features, as they exist at the time of documentation in the spring of 2014. Within the third chapter, the site's regional context, environmental conditions, and the cemetery setting both immediate and regional will be discussed. The chapter will be concluded with an abbreviated inventory and condition assessment of cemetery burial markers.

*Chapter four* will analyze the history and existing conditions of the cemetery landscape in accordance to the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation. The chapter will be divided into two sections. The first section will include a preliminary determination of the landscape's historical significance based upon the historical narrative and landscape inventory. The second section of chapter

four will analyze the history and existing conditions of the cemetery landscape in accordance to the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation. These guidelines provide a proven method for determining a historic site's period of significance, character defining features, and evaluation of the landscape's historical integrity. The second section of the chapter will evaluate the Luper Pioneer Cemetery landscape's historic character in accordance with the National Park Service's methodology for the evaluation of cultural landscapes. This methodology will organize the landscape through its characteristics and associated features. This organization will use the landscape history and inventory to provide an assessment and determination of contributing landscape features dating from the historic period, and those that were later additions and thus are non-contributing features in the cemetery landscape.

*Chapter five* will consist of the landscape treatment. The treatment will provide a preservation strategy for short and long-term planning based upon the cemetery's significance, existing conditions, and historic/contemporary use. The landscape treatment will address management goals including public access, cemetery maintenance, contemporary use, and interpretation. The treatment approach for Luper Cemetery will be guided by the guidelines and standards set by *National Park Service Director's Order NPS-28 Cultural Resource Management Guidelines*, and *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*.

The Luper Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report treatment section will address the Luper Pioneer Cemetery as three distinct zones. The

first zone will be the contemporary approach, which includes the two parking areas, the primary and secondary gates, the all-weather entrance road, and the interpretive panels. The second zone will be the buffer area between the historic fence line and the 1983 wastewater treatment plant fence. The third zone will be the historic cemetery based upon its historic legal boundaries prior to the construction of the wastewater treatment facility in 1983. This third zone will include the 1865 site boundaries, the 1880 addition between the southeast and southwest corners. The exact location of the Humphrey addition is unknown, however it is likely that it is located within the current property boundaries. The three-zone approach will allow for separate individualized treatments, one for the contemporary entrance sequence, a second for the buffer zone, and finally a third for the historic cemetery core within the historic boundaries.

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report will conclude with an appendix containing important primary source historical documents, aerial photographs, site plans and maps, historical photographs, past inventories and survey reports, and the 2014 cemetery inventory. The cemetery inventory forms document all 133 extant burial markers and bases as they appeared in the spring of 2014. The Luper Pioneer Cemetery field documentation forms were derived from forms available from the National Park Service's National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT), an authority on cemetery conservation and preservation in the United States. The documentation forms available from NCPTT are universal so that they can be used on a vast number of different cemetery marker and structure types found throughout the United States. These forms were edited so that they address nuances and variations of burial markers

present in the historic landscape of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery. Each burial marker was photographed on three sides, depicting the front, side profile, and rear. Character defining details, iconography, inscriptions, epitaphs, and damage were also photographed. All extant footstones were photographed on their front, side, and rear. A contextual photograph was also taken to depict the burial plots, enclosures, and distance between the primary marker and footstone or footstones. The Luper Cemetery field documentation forms and images are included in the appendix of the report.

The research for the Luper Cemetery Cultural Landscape report was completed through a thorough investigation of available primary source documents. Several regional historical record repositories were visited to acquire information on the development of, and changes that have occurred to, the Luper Pioneer Cemetery. Historical repositories include: Lane County, Oregon Records, Lane County Historical Society, Oregon Genealogical Society, the Oregon Historical Society, and the Oregon Genealogical Forum. Private collections of primary source documents belonging to Luper Cemetery, Inc. members and volunteers have also been accessed throughout the planning and research stages of the project. Finally, the documentation of Luper Cemetery's existing conditions is based upon field inventory, site surveys, and discussions with the cemetery's management organization about past burial marker conservation, repairs, and landscape maintenance. The treatment chapter for the Luper Cemetery cultural landscape report will be developed based upon the needs of the cemetery landscape. Cemetery preservation plans such as the one developed for Bodie State Park, California by Donovan and Associates was used to help guide the cemetery treatment.

## Chapter 2 – History

In order to gain a full understanding of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery's development and evolution, it is important to examine the site's prehistory both geologic and cultural. The formation of the Willamette Valley and its fertile soils is closely tied to the site's geology. The geology and high fertility of the Willamette Valley floor had a heavy influence on prehistoric and historic period settlement patterns. Environmental conditions created by the native tribes in the Willamette Valley and first described by early surveyors likely extended across the pre-cemetery landscape and influenced the selection of the site for the creation of a cemetery.

### Geology

Luper Cemetery is located in the southern Willamette Valley of western Oregon. The valley, bordered by the Cascade Range to the east, and the coastal range to the west, is approximately 130 miles in length and 25 to 30 miles in width and is bisected by the Willamette River.<sup>11</sup> The rich alluvial soil of the Willamette Valley was deposited during the Missoula Floods, which occurred between 18,000 and 12,000 years ago. The floods lasted for a period of approximately 2,500 years as the result of the natural failure of ice dams caused by the Cordilleran Ice Sheet.<sup>12</sup> The soil of the Willamette Valley is also comprised of sediments and gravels that eroded from the surrounding

11 James R. Habeck, "The Original Vegetation of the Mid-Willamette Valley, Oregon", *Northwest Science* 55, no. 2 (1961): 1, accessed February 10, 2014, [http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/org\\_nws/NWSci%20journal%20articles/1960-1969/1961%20vol%2035/Issue%202/v35%20p65%20Habeck.pdf](http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/org_nws/NWSci%20journal%20articles/1960-1969/1961%20vol%2035/Issue%202/v35%20p65%20Habeck.pdf).

12 "Glacial Lake Missoula and the Floods That Changed Oregon," Oregon State University, accessed February 9, 2014, <http://aitc.oregonstate.edu/grown/pdf/geology/missoula.pdf>.

mountains.<sup>13</sup>

### Pre-Contact

Prior to European contact, the Willamette Valley was the home of the Kalapuyan people for at least 10,000 years.<sup>14</sup> The Kalapuyas were composed of several bands including the Tualatin, Yamhill, Pudding River (Ashantchuyuck, Chemekatas, Luckiamute, Santiam, Mary's River (Chapanata), Calpooia and McKenzie, and Yoncalla (Aynankeld).<sup>15</sup> These bands were largely subsistence-based and relied on hunting and gathering. Their food staples included camas, tarweed seeds, acorns, hazelnuts, berries, elk, and deer.<sup>16</sup> The Kalapuyas used fire as an important ecological management tool. Burning the vast prairie landscape resulted in the creation and sustainment of a mosaic of open prairie and woodlands along the length of the Willamette Valley. This landscape attracted a large variety of wildlife and endemic plant species on which the Kalapuyas relied.<sup>17</sup> Elk, Deer, Camas, tarweed, hazelnuts, and other seeds, all of which were important staples in the diets of the Kalapuyas, thrived in the prairie mosaic.

Upon arriving in the southern Willamette Valley, the earliest Euro-American settlers encountered a landscape that appeared much different than what is visible today. In 1853 Federal surveyors passed through the area where the Luper Cemetery was to be established

13 A.W. Urahart, *Geography Of* (Eugene, OR: University of Oregon, Unpublished), 1.

14 Jessica Thompson "The River's People," UO Library Scholar's Bank, 2006, accessed March 10, 2014, [https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1794/3646/rivers\\_people.pdf?sequence=1](https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1794/3646/rivers_people.pdf?sequence=1).

15 Janice Weide, "Kalapuya of the Willamette Valley," Salem Online History, accessed February 12, 2014, [http://www.salemhistory.net/people/native\\_americans.htm](http://www.salemhistory.net/people/native_americans.htm).

16 Weide, *ibid.*

17 Weide, *ibid.*



1852 survey of the township in which Luper Cemetery was established (United States Bureau of Land Management, Accessed 2014)

and described the landscape as being “level and gently undulating prairie with occasional sloughs, and swales. Soil first rate sandy and clay loam, gravelly in places, little Oak and Ash along the swales.”<sup>18</sup> This prairie landscape did not occur naturally. The Kalapuyas who once lived in the valley allowed, and sometimes introduced, fires that developed and sustained the prairie landscape. The prairie landscape in return sustained the pre-settlement humans, and provided habitat for wildlife.<sup>19</sup> Seasonal burning also allowed for the growth

18 “1853 Oregon Survey, Cadastral Survey Plats,” Bureau of Land Management, accessed March 9, 2014, <http://www.blm.gov/or/landrecords/cadastralplats.php>.

19 James R. Habeck, “The Original Vegetation of the Mid-Willamette Valley, Oregon”, *Northwest Science* 55, no. 2 (1961): 1, accessed February 10, 2014, [http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/org\\_nws/NWSci%20journal%20articles/1960-1969/1961%20](http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/org_nws/NWSci%20journal%20articles/1960-1969/1961%20)

of Oregon white oak savannahs along the swales and drier slopes of the Willamette Valley, as they were naturally fire resistant due to their thick bark and resistance to rot.<sup>20</sup> Following the settlement of the valley in the middle to late part of the nineteenth century, fires were viewed as a threat and measures were taken to prevent them from occurring. The prairies and oak savannahs, which were once so important to the native peoples and wildlife, began to disappear as dense forests replaced them through the process of succession. Natural fire cycles in the Willamette Valley prior to Euro-American settlement prevented young trees from becoming established. The removal of the sustaining fire regimen from the Willamette Valley at the time of settlement allowed forests to invade the open prairies that had been preserved by the native tribes for thousands of years. The vast upland and wetland prairies described by surveyors in the early 1850s ceded to urban development, agriculture and the dense forests that are visible in the Willamette Valley today.

#### **Oregon Trail/ Westward Migration**

Between 1840 and 1860 an estimated 296,000 to 350,000 individuals and families crossed the western United States on the 2,000-mile long Oregon Trail. These individuals and families were in search of a new life in Oregon and other surrounding states.<sup>21</sup> The trail served as the primary land route from Missouri and other points east, to the Oregon Territory prior to the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869.<sup>22</sup>

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vol%2035/Issue%202/v35%20p65%20Habeck.pdf.

20 S.S. Niemiec, "Oregon White Oak (*Quercus Garryana*)," Oregon State University: Oregon Wood Innovation Center, accessed March 12, 2014, <http://owic.oregonstate.edu/oregon-white-oak-quercus-garryana>.

21 "Frequently Asked Questions," Bureau of Land Management, accessed March 13, 2014, <http://www.blm.gov/or/oregontrail/history-faqs.php>.

Settlers hoped to obtain rich agricultural land for free through the Federal Government's Donation Land Claim Act of 1850.<sup>23</sup> The act required the creation of the Surveyor-General of the Public Lands of Oregon to survey and make donations to the state's early settlers.

Section four of the Donation Land Claim Act of 1850 stated:

There shall be, and hereby is, granted to every white settler or occupant of the public lands, American half-breed Indians included, above the age of eighteen years, being a citizen of the United States, or having made a declaration according to law, of his intention to become a citizen, or who shall make such declaration on or before the first day of December, eighteen hundred and fifty, and who shall have resided upon and cultivated the same for four consecutive years, and shall otherwise conform to the provisions of this act, the quantity of one half section, or three hundred and twenty acres of land, if a single man, and if a married man, or if he shall become married within one year from the first day of December, eighteen hundred and fifty, the quantity of one section, or six hundred and forty acres, one half to himself and the other half to his wife.<sup>24</sup>

Thomas and Elizabeth Baker acquired the property on which the cemetery was established as part of a Donation Land Claim in 1853.

22 "History of the Transcontinental Railroad," Bureau of Land Management, March 4, 2011, accessed March 13, 2014, [http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/salt\\_lake/recreation/back\\_country\\_byways/transcontinental\\_railroad/transcontinental\\_railroad.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/salt_lake/recreation/back_country_byways/transcontinental_railroad/transcontinental_railroad.html).

23 "Frequently Asked Questions," Bureau of Land Management, accessed March 13, 2014, <http://www.blm.gov/or/oregonrail/history-faqs.php>.

24 "Document: The Donation Land Claim Act, 1850," Center for Columbia River History, accessed March 13, 2014, <http://www.ccrh.org/comm/cottage/primary/claim.htm>.

The cemetery, located north of the City of Eugene in Lane County, Oregon, is the burial site of 17 early Oregon pioneers who reached the Willamette Valley in 1853 as part of the "Lost" wagon train. The wagon train arrived into the Willamette Valley by way of the Free Immigrant Road.<sup>25</sup>

#### **Arrival of the Oregon and California Railroad**

Luper and Irving, Oregon, two small agricultural communities near Luper Cemetery were located on the Oregon and California Railroad. The Oregon and California Grant established the railroad in 1866. The railroad was constructed between 1869 and 1872 and provided rail service from Portland to Roseburg. Both Irving and Luper were the site of rail stations that allowed for the movement and shipment of passengers, agricultural commodities, and freight. The rail line continued on from Roseburg to both eastern Oregon and the Oregon Coast. By 1887 the rail line had reached California.<sup>26</sup> The railroad was an important link to the eastern United States for these small communities. As a result, burial markers could be shipped much longer distances and materials, which would not previously have been available, found their ways into small cemeteries such as Luper. An example of this being cast zinc, which was shipped by rail from manufacturing plants in Iowa.

#### **Luper Cemetery Early History**

The property on which the Luper Cemetery was established was

25 Leah Collins Menefee, "The Free Emigrant Road Over Willamette Pass," Benton County Historical Society and Museum, 1979, accessed June 13, 2014, <http://www.bentoncountymuseum.org/research/freemigrant.cfm>.

26 "OandC Counties Historical Information BLM celebrates 75th Anniversary of the OandC Act," Bureau of Land Management, accessed March 13, 2014, <http://www.blm.gov/or/rac/ctypayhistory.php>.



Fields north of cemetery (Author, 2013)



Cemetery looking north from air. (S. Boulton, 2013)

deeded to Thomas and Elizabeth Baker as a Donation Land Claim upon their arrival in the Oregon Territory in 1853. The Luper Cemetery was founded in Ca. 1857 out of the necessity for a burial ground near the small communities of Irving and Luper, Oregon. The cemetery site was likely selected due to its slightly elevated location within the vast

undulating landscape. Upon his death, Thomas Baker's wife and heirs sold the portion of the claim containing the cemetery to Milton T. Aubrey in February of 1864.<sup>27</sup> This was followed by Aubrey's sale of the cemetery portion of the donation land claim to Thomas

Tucker, William A. Baker, and William Thompson, and their heirs, a year later for five dollars. Tucker and Thompson, whom Aubrey sold the property, were relatives of individuals interred at the site. Thomas Baker was a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Baker, the first family to own the Donation Land Claim on which the cemetery was founded.

Aubrey deeded the cemetery property with the stated purpose of

<sup>27</sup> Cemetery Deed Thomas Baker to Milton T. Aubrey, Lane County Oregon, 1864.



Cemetery looking east (Author, 2013)

setting the land aside to permanently serve as "a public burying ground for the use and benefit of the neighborhood."<sup>28</sup> Through selling the cemetery, Aubrey set up a cemetery board that would legally own the cemetery. Aubrey stated that Thomas Tucker, William A. Baker, and William Thompson's successors in office would be

"selected by a meeting of the neighborhood said meeting to be called out by notice nine days by anyone having dead buried on said grounds, and said directors or trustees and their successors are to be (...) controlled and make such convey once from time to time as may be deemed advisable by said meetings to the following described ground or piece or parcel of land (...)." Aubrey went on to state that the property was to be "used for the purpose of burying the dead. And which is now fenced off to itself or in course of being fenced off."<sup>29</sup> It is unknown what material from which the early fence was constructed. Several ornate cast-iron fence posts have been discovered in locations along the perimeter of the site. These posts likely date from a later period (ca. 1890).

The cemetery and the nearby historic community of Luper were named for James N. Luper an early Willamette Valley pioneer, who

28 Cemetery Deed Milton Aubrey to Thomas Tucker et. Al, Lane County Oregon, 1865

29 Cemetery Deed Milton Aubrey to Thomas Tucker et. Al, Lane County Oregon, 1865

purchased the land surrounding the cemetery from Milton T. Aubrey in approximately 1869 or 70.<sup>30</sup> From the late 1800s through the early 1950s very little is known about the appearance and management of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery. During this period the use of the Oregon and California Railroad waned. This was likely the result of the growing popularity and availability of the automobile. The railroads, which had once been the foundation and primary economic support for many small agricultural communities along their length, closed to passenger travel. Agricultural communities shrank, with some such as Luper, Oregon becoming ghost towns with the only reference to their existence being remnant labels on historic maps. Other communities such as Santa Clara and Irving were consumed by the rapidly growing city of Eugene. By the early 1950s a majority of the immediate descendants of the earliest pioneers had died, with many being interred in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery family plots. The loss of the railroad, shrinking populations of adjacent small towns in agricultural areas, and the ease of travel by automobile likely resulted in the reduced need for the rural Luper Cemetery as a burial ground. Larger cemeteries with active management organizations were located in the nearby city of Eugene, and the small community of Junction City continued to grow during this period.

#### **Luper Pioneer Cemetery Ca. 1948 to Present**

In 1957, Howard Humphrey, a member of the Irving Cemetery Association, completed a cemetery identification and survey form for the Genealogical Forum of Portland, Oregon. Humphrey wrote that in 1903 or 1904, William Humphrey donated approximately one-half acre to expand the cemetery, although this deed has not been located.

<sup>30</sup> Lewis A. McArthur and Lewis L. McArthur, *Oregon Geographic Names*, 7th ed. (Portland: Oregon Historical Society Press, 2003), 1.



Luper Cemetery (Author, 2014)

Humphrey also wrote that on an earlier visit in 1948 he had observed burial markers dated 1843 and 1850 in one section of the cemetery. In the cemetery survey he went on to write that “repeated vandalism has taken it’s (sic) toll, and upon (sic) this dated observation, Feb. 26, 1957, the early stones are not to be found. They may still be here, under the vines, but more likely have been destroyed.”<sup>31</sup> This is the earliest mention of vandalism and deferred maintenance being a problem in the cemetery. This report is further collaborated by a volunteer’s discovery of two beer bottles buried near the large maple

in the spring of 2014. Both bottles had manufacturer’s dates of 1953.

Outside of Humphrey’s survey form, there were at least six known cemetery inventory and survey projects completed between 1940 and 1993.

In 1948 the Register-Guard Newspaper in Eugene Oregon published a list of Lane County cemeteries that served as the final resting places of United States veterans. The list was based upon records collected by Frederick K. Davis between 1933 and 1948 on behalf of the Sons of

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<sup>31</sup> Howard Humphrey, Jr., Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Luper Cemetery Survey Form, Luper Cemetery Inc. Collection.



Corporal William Bushnell burial marker (Author, 2013)

Union Veterans of the Civil War.<sup>32</sup> In 1941, the Oregon Lewis and Clark Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution (D.A.R.) completed an inventory for Luper Cemetery. Their inventory did not count individuals under the age of twenty, which likely resulted in a large number of markers being left unrecorded.<sup>33</sup> In 1950, The Eugene Register-Guard published a second Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War inventory.<sup>34</sup> Nearly two decades passed before a fourth inventory was completed. In 1970 Sylvia Richardson and Ardyth Rossow compiled an onsite inventory of Luper Cemetery in which they built upon the existing

D.A.R. survey. The inventory also included burial information from other sources including the J.A. Bushnell Diary and data provided by other individuals.<sup>35</sup> The 1970 inventory made note of the cemetery's seclusion, problems with vandalism, and its abandoned appearance.<sup>36</sup>

32 Frederick K. Davis, "Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Cemetery Survey," *Register-Guard*, May 28, 1948.

33 Oregon Cemeteries, Lane County Vol. III Prepared by Oregon Lewis and Clark Chapter of D.A.R., Lane Historical Museum.

34 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Cemetery Inventory," *Eugene Register-Guard*, May 26, 1950

35 Ardyth Rossow, Luper Cemetery Inventory 1970, Lane Historical Museum Collection.

36 Oregon Genealogical Society Bulletin, "Luper Cemetery", January, 1972. March 9, 2014. "Luper Cemetery"



Louciller Jane Rhea burial marker  
(Author, 2014)

The cemetery's rough appearance is further reinforced through 1970s aerial imagery.<sup>37</sup>

In 1978 the Oregon Department of Transportation compiled a survey and listing of cemeteries in Oregon. While this was not an inventory of burials, the site description once again mentions the cemetery's abandoned

appearance. In November of 1980, Daniel W. Hays compiled an inventory of Luper Cemetery burials as part of his larger Lane County Cemeteries survey project. Hays visited the cemetery prior to the construction of the sanitary sewer and seasonal industrial waste disposal facility on the agricultural lands surrounding the cemetery and described the cemetery and its approach as follows:

Hard to find, and accessible by PERMISSION ONLY. Now almost totally overgrown, only about 50 stones are accessible at all, through there are many more. At one time there was an entrance gate and fence, but these are gone. It has been vandalized in the past, but it is now somewhat protected by the sheer difficulty of reaching it. A gorgeous place, lush growth, some wonderful and highly interesting stones. Approximately 2 miles north of Irving on Prairie Road, there is a double-gated farm track to the right (when traveling north) on a wide

37 United States Geologic Service, Aerial Imagery, 1977, University of Oregon Maps and Images Library, February, 2014



Robert and James McClure burial markers (K. Olson, ca. 1992)

curve. Get permission at the nearby house. Go through the gate, and follow the track 0.4 mile to the brush. The cemetery is located in this wooded thick brushy area. One or two stones may be glimpsed from the edge of the cultivated field. There are some trails through the stones, and some clearings. The cemetery spreads out in all directions from where you enter.<sup>38</sup>

This description is the only known account of the entrance road leading to the cemetery from the curve at Prairie Road.

Luper cemetery's unkempt condition was also discussed in a 1982



Koepp burial marker (K. Olson, ca. 1992)

letter by Howard Humphrey Jr. Humphrey, who served as an Irving (Luper) Cemetery Association board member, stated that the cemetery was "in the worst shape it has ever been in, and those few families (8 to 10) and individuals who at times are there to clean off one or more graves, find it harder each

<sup>38</sup> Daniel W. Hays. "An Inventory of Lane County Cemeteries" 1980, Lane County Historical Museum Collections, February 2013.



(K. Olson, ca. 1992)

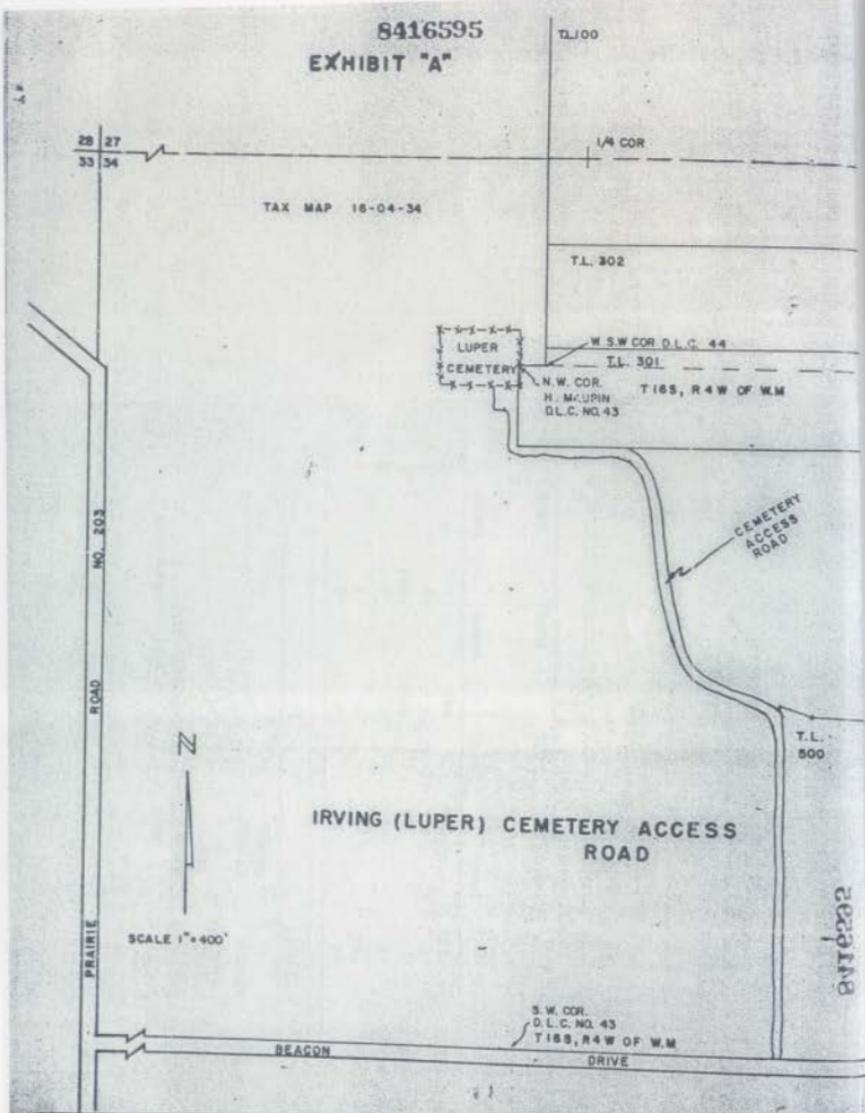


(K. Olson, ca. 1992)



(K. Olson, ca. 1992)

8416595  
EXHIBIT "A"



Cemetery access road diagram (Municipal Wastewater Management Commission, ca 1983)



Agricultural land adjacent to cemetery (Author, 2014)

year.”<sup>39</sup> Humphrey attributed the cemetery’s dire condition to the fact that “each year, the local families grow thinner, and older, and (as a result are) unable to do as much.”<sup>40</sup> During the same time the cemetery was under assault from nature, it was also being threatened by the City of Eugene. In the early 1980s the City of Eugene, Oregon purchased

the agricultural land surrounding the cemetery for the construction of a 280-acre, 7.2 million dollar sanitary sewer and seasonal industrial waste disposal facility.<sup>41</sup> In constructing the facility, the City of Eugene began the process of condemning the original cemetery road, which had been deeded to Allen Bond, J.C. Jennings, Andrew Simmons, and their heirs by James N. Luper in 1880. The road passed through the middle of the planned light industrial complex.

In response to the city’s threat to condemn the cemetery road, the Irving Cemetery Association, headed by Howard Humphrey, Jr. began the process of searching for the heirs of the three individuals listed in the 1880 deed. Even upon finding the descendants the Irving Cemetery Association continued to fight the condemnation of the existing road due to Humphrey’s and other board members’ skepticism that the city would hold up their side of the agreement and provide a proper access

39 Howard Humphrey Jr., “Thank You” A letter to Luper Cemetery Association Members, October 26, 1982, Lane County Historical Museum Collections, February, 2014.

40 *ibid.*, Humphrey Jr.

41 Howard Humphrey Jr. “Pioneers’ descendants sought” Newspaper Clipping, Unknown Source, Lane County Historical Museum Collections, February, 2013.

road to the cemetery upon the completion of the wastewater facility. The cemetery association hired a lawyer who was able to secure the city's legal agreement that an "all-weather" gravel road would be constructed, upon the completion of the facility, to provide year-round access to the cemetery. A perpetual easement was granted in January of



Entrance Road (Author, 2014)

1984. The easement stated that the:

Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC), an inter governmental agency... hereby bargains, grants and conveys to the Irving (Luper) Cemetery, a permanent, nonexclusive right of access (easement)

over a 12-foot wide improved gravel roadway over property owned by Grantor (MWMC) from a dedicated public roadway to the cemetery property.<sup>42</sup>

The perpetual easement went on to stipulate that:

The easement may be relocated at Grantor's sole discretion, subject only to the requirement to maintain access from a dedicated public roadway to the above described cemetery property. Grantor agrees to maintain the easement in a manner that provides all-weather access to the above described cemetery property.<sup>43</sup>

The all-weather cemetery road would finally be constructed in

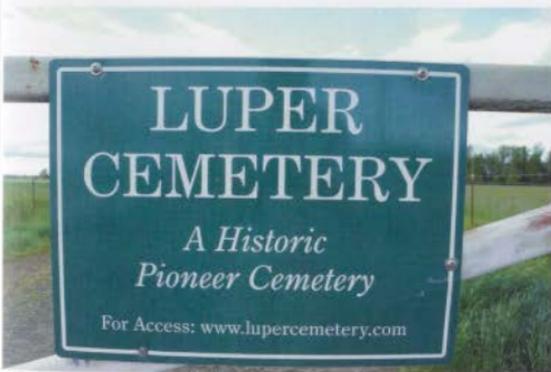
42 Perpetual Easement, Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission to Luper Cemetery, January 12, 1984, Luper Cemetery Inc. Collection.

43 Perpetual Easement, Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission to Luper Cemetery, January 12, 1984, Luper Cemetery Inc. Collection.



Cemetery entrance gate on West Beacon Drive (Author, 2014)

1984, nearly 104 years after the original deed had been filed with Lane County. While the cemetery association received the requested replacement access road, their legal battle resulted in the depletion of the little money they had saved in their "cemetery account". Humphrey stated that the cemetery board members would "make up the difference personally".<sup>44</sup> The construction of the wastewater treatment plant heavily altered the landscape surrounding the cemetery. Extensive re-grading with fill shortened the slough to the



Entrance Sign (Author, 2014)

cemetery's western fence line. The original 1880 road, configuration that approached the cemetery from the west, was removed and a new gravel road and parking area were constructed. This new road accessed what had once been the rear of the cemetery. This change likely had a strong affect on circulation patterns within the site. In 1986, two years after constructing the access road, the Municipal Wastewater Management Commission installed a gate at West Beacon Drive as a result of the repeated dumping of refuse.<sup>45</sup>

44 Howard Humphrey Jr. "Thank You" A letter to Luper Cemetery Association Members, October 26, 1982, Lane County Historical Museum, February, 2014.

45 Correspondence from G. David Jewett to Sharon Olson dated May 13, 2009, Olson-Luper Cemetery Inc. Collection.



Cemetery buffer (Author, 2014)

While the cemetery could no longer be driven to, a gravel parking area outside of the gate was provided so that visitors could walk the approximately ½ mile to the cemetery. A sign on the gate during the early 1990s provided a phone number that could be contacted to request vehicular access to the cemetery. The current sign installed by Luper Cemetery

Inc. provides a web address to the website which lists contact phone numbers for the organization's board members and primary volunteers who can open the gate by appointment. A pedestrian pass-through

is located on the east side of the vehicular gate to provide foot and bicycle access to the historic cemetery.



Flowering cherry tree (Author, 2014)

Upon construction of the wastewater plant, the City of Eugene built a new perimeter fence with two strands of barbed wire circling the top. This new fence was placed approximately

ten feet outside of the existing fence line in order to create a maintenance buffer. Several cemetery cleanup projects occurred during the late 1980s and throughout the 1990s and 2000s including the use



Roy and Esther Smith decorate the Maxwell family plot (K. Olson, 1995)

wrote that "Hand work is the basic need at present, to preserve some of the fruit and flowering plants and trees...which will, as you note,



Cemetery cleanup (K. Olson, 1992)

of a prison work crew on at least one occasion.<sup>46</sup> Soon after the construction of the waste treatment plant, the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission agreed to find volunteers to help clean up the cemetery during a one-off event. In a letter addressed to Pat Hocken, president of MWMC, in response to one she had sent earlier, Howard Humphrey Jr.

enhance the overall looks of the spot."<sup>47</sup> Humphrey went on to write "a cleanup was done many years ago by descendants and kin and interested neighbors. By a large crew, the cemetery grounds were cleaned, and weed killer was applied. Unfortunately, after all this work, a fire covered the entire cemetery, a few months later."<sup>48</sup>

Each time the cemetery was cleaned, it would once again revert to being "abandoned to nature". At one point several groups offered to

46 Russell Carrey, ed., *Luper Cemetery* (Lane County Historical Museum, 2013).

47 Correspondence from Howard Humphrey to Pat Hocken, President of Metropolitan Waste Management Commission, Sept. 13, 1982.

48 Correspondence from Howard Humphrey to Pat Hocken, President of Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission, Sept. 13, 1982.



Luper Cemetery (K. Olson, ca. 1993)

help with the cleanup but backed out upon seeing the time and effort that would be required.<sup>49</sup> The Bushnell and Pitney families reportedly continued to organize joint cleanup events at the cemetery in order to maintain their family's plots into the early to mid 1990s. James Pitney, a descendent of the early Willamette Valley

settlers who was in his late 80s in 2009, stated that the family quit using the cemetery because "it was not cared for very well"<sup>50</sup>



Luper Cemetery Inc. board members and volunteers reset burial markers (M. Boulton, April 2011)

The creation of the cemetery board in 1865, comprised of family members of those interred within Luper, was intended to provide the cemetery with a managing body in perpetuity. Family members and descendants living in the surrounding communities of Irving, Luper, Junction City, and Santa Clara, and adjacent rural areas served as the board members

of the Irving Cemetery Association until the mid 1980s to early 1990s when the organization appears to have ceased operations. Howard

<sup>49</sup> Correspondence from Howard Humphrey to Pat Hocken, President of Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission, Sept. 13, 1982.

<sup>50</sup> "of the News", Unknown Publication by Jessica Hoch, March 19, 2009. Oregon Genealogical Society Collection, Accessed, March, 2014.

Humphrey Jr., a descendent, and adjacent property owner, was likely one of the last active cemetery board members. With his death in 1991 it is likely that the organization folded.

During the early 1990s Karen Olson began to research, document, and clean up the cemetery. Olson recorded the burial markers and took many photographs of the site that are descriptive in understanding the condition of the cemetery from 1991-1994. Olson compiled several cemetery plot maps based upon the visible above ground resources. No cemetery plot maps have been discovered, so Olson's hand drawn maps are the earliest known diagrams of the cemetery's layout. A diagram of the western road as it appeared prior to the construction of the wastewater plant was documented through demolition and construction documents completed by the city as part of planning for the wastewater plant. These maps show the surrounding terrain and the 1980s changes in great detail, however they do not show the layout of the interior of the cemetery plot.

The abandonment cycle continued to repeat its self until 2009 when a group of concerned neighbors and descendants of the families buried in the cemetery, founded Luper Cemetery Inc. a nonprofit organization "to historically preserve and maintain the pioneer Luper Cemetery, honor those buried here, and engage the community in local history."<sup>51</sup> The Irving Cemetery Association and the 2009 Luper Cemetery Inc. organization give continuity to Aubrey's wishes as stated in the 1865 deed which officially established the cemetery and created an organization of descendants and their heirs tasked with managing and

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<sup>51</sup> 2012 Luper Pioneer Cemetery Management Plan, February 9, 2012 (Luper Cemetery Inc. Files), March, 2014.



Vandalism at Luper Cemetery  
(Unknown, KVAL News, October  
2009)

maintaining the (Irving) Luper  
Pioneer Cemetery in perpetuity.

As the Luper Cemetery Inc. non-  
profit was nearing completion of  
the 2009 cemetery restoration,  
vandals struck. The four vandals,  
who were later caught, jailed,  
and fined, damaged nearly eighty  
markers in the cemetery. Several

burial markers were stolen from the Luper Cemetery and were soon  
discovered on South Garden Way near Harlow Road in east Eugene.  
The damage from the major damage continues to be addressed  
and burial markers and fragments continue to be discovered on the  
site and elsewhere. In 2012 Ted Baker with Roberts Surveying,  
Inc. in Springfield, Oregon provided a much needed cemetery plot



Big leaf maple loses branch in ice  
storm (Author, 2014)

map depicting the circulation,  
vegetation and burial markers as  
they appeared above ground on  
that date. This survey map has  
been the primary document used  
by Luper Cemetery, Inc. in their  
preservation efforts.

In the spring of 2014 a major ice  
storm heavily damaged a section

of the old growth maple tree growing in the northwest corner of the  
cemetery. The fallen branch is to be cut into slabs for benches to  
be placed in the cemetery. During this same period, a marble burial



Harriet Wadsworth, Anna Bell Wadsworth, and Lavina Moore burial markers (Author, 2014)

marker with the name John Paul Legate was discovered buried along the west fence line. Several months later, Luper Cemetery, Inc., the cemetery's managing organization, located three original marble burial markers at Eugene Monument, a local burial monument business. The markers had been dropped off for repairs in the early 1990s and had been

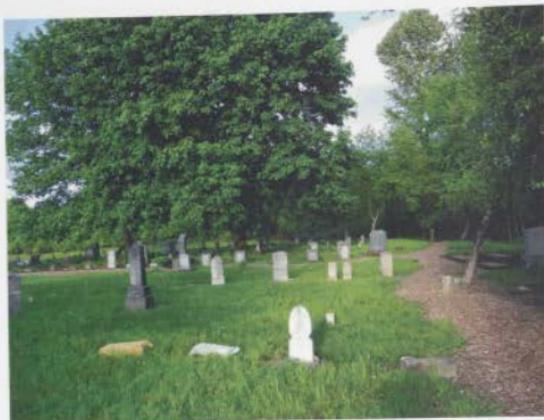
storage for nearly 25 years. The located markers belonged to Lavina Moore, Harriet Wadsworth, and Anna Bell Wadsworth. Anna Bell's marker has been returned to the cemetery, and Harriet's and Lavina's markers will be returned upon the installation of replacement concrete bases.

### **Chapter 3 – Existing Conditions**

The existing conditions and character defining features of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery are discussed as part of the landscape narrative that describes the appearance and feeling of the historic landscape. Character defining features are described by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards as "the qualities of the landscape conveyed by its materials, features, spaces and finishes...through which historic character is expressed."<sup>52</sup> The natural and cultural features that define the landscape character are: spatial organization, land patterns

52 Heidi Hohmann, "Cultural Landscape Report, Platt Historic District, Chickasaw National Recreation Area, Oklahoma," National Park Service, 2004, accessed April 24, 2014, [http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online\\_books/chickasaw/pdf/Chapter%207.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/history/history/online_books/chickasaw/pdf/Chapter%207.pdf).

and land use, visual relationships, topography and natural systems, vegetation, circulation, hydrology and water features, structures, site furnishings, and objects. The landscape narrative and accompanying



Luper Cemetery (Author, 2014)

diagrams will identify, delineate, and describe the important features, which contribute to the cemetery's appearance and feeling. The landscape narrative and description were described based upon extensive fieldwork completed by the author during the winter of 2013 and spring of 2014 that identified, inventoried, and assessed the condition of

the natural and cultural cemetery landscape features. The goal of the fieldwork was to inventory the landscape features at the time of documentation, and determine where the features fit into the landscape's history

### Regional Context

The pioneer cemetery is located in northern Lane county between Junction City and Eugene, Oregon. The approximately two-acre cemetery is situated just outside of the Eugene/ Santa Clara urban growth boundary in an area of expansive agricultural and light industrial farmland, which is currently leased to a local farmer who uses the property to produce forage.<sup>53</sup> The cemetery property is situated in a very remote location surrounded by agricultural fields and dense

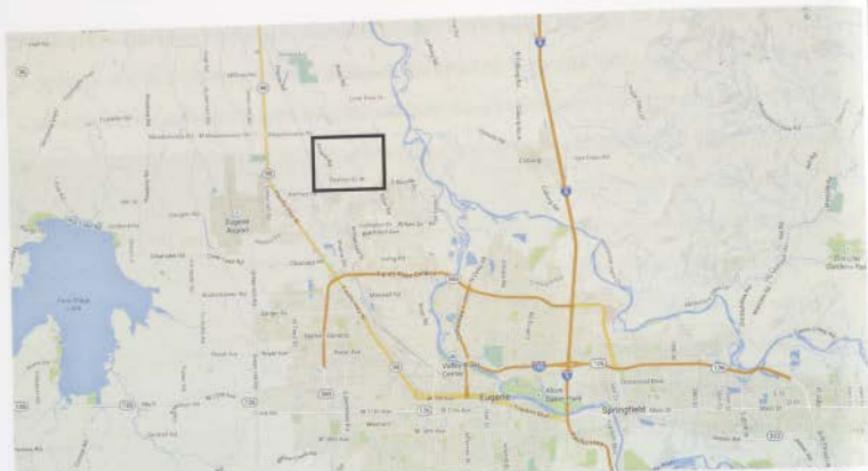
<sup>53</sup> "Beneficial Reuse Site," Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission, 2014, accessed May 5, 2014, <http://www.mwmcpartners.org/brs.html>.

deciduous forest with an understory composed primarily of blackberry thickets. To reach the cemetery, visitors must drive follow a gated half-mile gravel road that originates from West Beacon Drive to the south and winds northward to the southeast corner of the cemetery. River Road is located a short distance to the west and Prairie Road is located a short distance to the east of the cemetery. Prairie road runs parallel to the Union Pacific railroad, which until 1927 was the route of the Oregon California Railroad. The railroad, which is visible in the distance from the cemetery, is owned by the Union Pacific Railroad and serves both freight and Amtrak trains at varying times throughout the day. The cemetery abuts the flood plain of Flat Creek, a tributary of the Willamette River. Nearby communities include Irving, Santa Clara, Junction City, Eugene, and the ghost town of Luper.

Family owned agricultural farmland once surrounded the cemetery. These properties were purchased by the city of Eugene in the early 1980s for the construction of a light industrial waste treatment facility. While the surrounding landscape is used for light industrial purposes, the landscape retains its agricultural character. Upon the construction of the waste treatment plant, the historic dirt access road, which originated from a curve in Prairie Road to the west, was relocated to its present location. The cemetery is located a short distance east of Eugene's Mahlon Sweet Field regional airport.

#### **Spatial Organization**

Visitors arriving at the Luper Cemetery are directed to a small gravel parking area by a small sign posted along the two-lane West Beacon Road. Throughout most of the year, visitors are required to park in a small gravel lot due to a large steel gate being closed for security



Map of Eugene and Springfield, Oregon with Luper Pioneer Cemetery indicated by black box. (Google Maps, 2014)



Satellite imagery depicting the landscape surrounding Luper Cemetery. Prairie Road, River Road, and West Beacon Road are located at the left, right, and bottom of the image. Location of Luper Pioneer Cemetery indicated by the white box. (Google Maps, 2014)



Cemetery entrance gate on West Beacon Road (Author, 2014)

holder containing interpretive handouts, which explain the history of the Luper Cemetery, is affixed to the fence. This parking area is approximately 1/2 mile south of the cemetery.



Cemetery gate and adjacent parking (Author, 2014)

road leads to a second small parking area immediately adjacent to the cemetery. A second gate, this one is constructed of chain link, provides pedestrians and maintenance vehicles access to the cemetery site. Two interpretive pamphlet holders are attached to the chain link fence to the left of the gate opening. A metal oil drum serves as a trash receptacle

reasons. Visitors can make appointments to drive out to the cemetery by calling a phone number listed on a cemetery sign. Beyond the small six-space parking area off of West Beacon Road is a locked gate and pedestrian pass-through allowing access through the fence.

An interpretive cemetery guide

A fenced in gravel all-weather road winds northward between the agricultural land owned by the city of Eugene for their waste treatment plant, and a densely overgrown slough with seasonal standing water. The overgrown slough contains thickets of the invasive Armenian (Himalayan) blackberry. The cemetery approach

to the right of the gate. From the location of the gate, visitors receive a filtered view of the cemetery and its markers through trees growing in the slough. Upon entering through the gate adjacent to the cemetery, visitors see a stained wood interpretive kiosk located on the west side of the entry path. A small path leads across the slough and provides access to the southeast corner of the cemetery proper. The path across the slough has a metal culvert at its base allowing for seasonal wet weather runoff to pass below the earthen walkway.

### **Environmental Conditions**

The land on which the Luper Cemetery was established is slightly elevated within the broad Willamette Valley. As a result of its location,



Waste water treatment plant agricultural disposal fields west of the cemetery. (Author, 2014)

the cemetery soil is Malabon silty clay loam, which is commonly found on naturally terraced landscapes that are subject to brief flooding on rare occasions.<sup>54</sup> The soil is considered by the United States Geological Survey to be excellent for growing orchards, berries, vegetables, small grains, hay, pasture, and grass seed crops. The natural vegetation commonly

found on the site includes Douglas fir, Oregon white oak, Pacific poison oak, many other shrubs and grasses, and invasive blackberry.<sup>55</sup>

54 "Natural Resources Conservation Service: Web Soil Survey," United States Department of Agriculture, accessed April 5, 2014, <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>.

55 "Natural Resources Conservation Service: Malabon Series," United States Department of Agriculture, August, 2006, accessed April 5, 2014, [https://soilseries.sc.egov.usda.gov/OSD\\_Docs/M/MALABON.html](https://soilseries.sc.egov.usda.gov/OSD_Docs/M/MALABON.html).



Slough on south boundary of cemetery (Author, 2014)

The soil has a high water capacity, which results in it being very soft during the spring rainy season. Flat Creek, a tributary of the Willamette River, and its floodplain border the cemetery near its east side. The southern property boundary is formed by a deep but narrow slough. The slough is possibly part of the extensive infrastructure that was

built for the purpose of draining the Willamette River valley during the mid to late nineteenth century. The landscape surrounding the Luper Cemetery is heavily altered as a result of the wastewater treatment plant, which was constructed in the early 1980s. A large amount of re-grading occurred during the construction process which resulted

in the slough being filled in up to the cemetery fence line, and large amount of fill material being deposited directly north of the site.



Mulch pathway through cemetery (Author, 2014)

### Cemetery Circulation

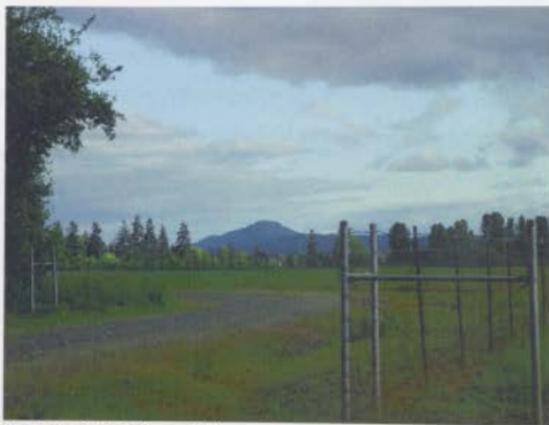
No extant remnants of the historic circulation patterns are visible in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery landscape. The many decades of abandonment have erased the well-

worn paths, including a primary entrance path that appeared in a 1930s aerial photograph. The pathway extended from the western fence line

(likely the location of the gate) and faded into the core of the cemetery to the east. The probable pattern of circulation within the site can be interpolated based upon the position and orientation of the burial markers. The pathways would have been situated historically so that inscriptions could be read without walking on the grave plots.

### Views and Vistas

The all-weather gravel road serves as the cemetery approach and provides a panoramic view of the immediate and intermediate



Spencer's Butte facing south from cemetery parking (Author, 2014)

landscape surrounding the cemetery. The vast open agricultural and industrial landscape surrounding the cemetery provides filtered views to the south Eugene Hills punctuated by Spencer's butte, panoramic western views to the coastal range with Mary's Peak along nearly the entire half-mile road. The cascade foothills are visible along the first

portion of the road, but are partially obscured by the dense vegetation growing in and around the slough on the east side of the road. The vegetation along the entry road and surrounding the cemetery is deciduous allowing for clearer views of the surrounding landscape during the winter months.

The cemetery provides broad panoramic views onto the surrounding agricultural landscape to the South and West. The vast open agricultural and industrial landscape surrounding the cemetery provide



Cemetery burial markers (Author, 2014)

filtered views to the south Eugene Hills punctuated by Spencer's butte, panoramic western views to the coastal range with Mary's Peak, and filtered eastern views of the Cascade foothills.

### Structures

Burial markers are located throughout the site with high densities in the east and southwest

portions. These burial markers are erected in an undulating linear fashion with the lines running in a north/south direction with the majority of the markers facing west.

The cemetery is the site of 134 burial markers and bases. Many years of deferred maintenance and vandalism have taken their toll on the burial markers as many have been stolen, broken, lost, or

damaged beyond recognition.

Burial markers are constructed from an assortment of materials, which include marble, sandstone, granite, cast zinc, and concrete.

Many intact and fragmented metal funeral home placards are located throughout the cemetery. These markers once held small pieces of paper that displayed the identity of the individuals interred.

Many of these metal markers



Daniel Bushnell burial marker (Author, 2014)



Willow design on Lucy Ann Hasbrouck burial marker (Author, 2014)



Daniel Bushnell burial marker (Author, 2014)

have been discovered buried throughout the cemetery with no apparent order. The names of the individuals whose burials these markers indicated have been lost to time due to the deterioration and subsequent loss of the paper inserts.

The burial markers in Luper Cemetery come in many shapes,

sizes, and forms from tablets to monolithic blocks, to ground tablets, to fieldstones. The markers have a wide variety of iconography and symbolism consisting of floral and faunal designs. These designs

include depictions of oak leaves and acorns, willows, roses, ivy, and bulrush along with images of fauna such as doves, and sheep.

The earliest extant burial markers are carved from marble with modern and contemporary markers craved from granite. Several burial plots are distinguished by concrete curbs, or are covered with a concrete slab. Some concrete slabs

appear to have been poured more recently than the enclosing curbs as the wear pattern and exposed aggregates appear to be different.

Three burial markers display carver's marks with their location of



Dove design on George C. Baker burial marker (Author, 2014)

business. The first documented carvers mark was on the burial marker of William Wooley. Wooley's gravestone was likely carved by W.W. Martin of Eugene, Oregon. Martin owned a shop on Willamette Street in downtown Eugene in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>56</sup> The second marker is cast zinc, also known as white bronze and was manufactured by the Western White Bronze Co. located in Des Moines, Iowa. The cast zinc family marker is that of Issac, Hettie, and William Bond. The third is the burial tablet of B.L. Skaggs. Skaggs' marker has the inscription of Merges & Vosper Marble Works of Portland.



Decorative detail of Almira Cummins burial marker (Author, 2014)

N.C. Merges and Alfred Vosper advertised their marble works in an 1880 issue of the Eugene City Guard.<sup>57</sup> It is possible that the marker was purchased as the result of one of these advertisements.

#### **Small Scale Landscape Features**

The cemetery was once bordered by a wire and barbed wire fence affixed to ornamental cast iron

56 Eugene City and Lane County Directory, 1892, WM. G. Obenauer and Co., Eugene, Oregon Historical Museum Collection, March 2014

57 "Merges and Vosper Marble Works," *Eugene City Guard*, February 14, 1880, accessed April 13, 2014, <http://library.uoregon.edu/diglib/odnp/index.html>.



Cast iron fence post discovered on east fence line (Author, 2013)

posts. One complete post was discovered buried on the southeast corner of the cemetery, a second broken fence post on the north fence line, and a third post missing its ornamentation on the west fence line. The period in which these fence posts were installed is unknown, but they likely date from the end of the nineteenth century. Two small contemporary rustic wooden benches with narrow profiles have been installed within the historic cemetery core. A sign measuring approximately one-foot by two-feet constructed of foam board has been nailed to a cherry tree on the west side of the cemetery. A second sign of the

same size and material has been nailed to the southeast maple tree near the cemetery entrance. A third smaller sign consisting of a laminated 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper has been nailed to a tree at the entrance adjacent to the slough.

### Native and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, and Perennial Plantings

Throughout its history, the cemetery has experienced cycles of maintenance and abandonment. The cemetery is anchored on the northwest corner by a large old growth maple tree. The



Big leaf maple in northwest corner of the cemetery (Author, 2014)

to the 1960s and 70s period of deferred landscape maintenance and “abandonment”. During the 1930s, the site was devoid of trees except for the old growth maple located in the northwest corner.



Cherry sapplings in northeast corner of the cemetery (Author, 2014)

time of the 2014 inventory are of these two species. Four native white oak trees were planted along the perimeter of the cemetery in the early 2010s. The ground plane within the historic perimeter consists of

multi trunk tree was estimated to be approximately 140 years of age through non-invasive boring completed on the largest trunk in the spring of 2014. Two mature maple trees, likely offspring of the large maple are growing in the middle of the eastern portion of the cemetery and first appear in aerial imagery during the late 1970s.

Their approximate age corresponds

Other trees found within the cemetery are primarily flowering trees such as apples and cherries, and hawthorns. These flowering trees were likely selectively left in situ during the 1980s cleanup events as described by Howard Humphrey. The maple and cherry trees seed profusely and nearly all seedlings and saplings under 5 inches DBH on the site at the



Lillies growing from the William Baker burial plot (Author, 2014)



Cherry sapplings in northeast corner of the cemetery (Author, 2014)

manicured grasses. The buffer zone outside of the historic cemetery property line is heavily overgrown with introduced periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) and other native and non-native grasses, shrubs, and small trees.

The cemetery landscape also contains many perennial ornamental plant species. A large lilac shrub grows between two burial markers dating from the 1880s. On the west side of the cemetery two ornamental roses of an unknown heirloom variety grow on either side of a burial marker. A third rose is situated near the northern site boundary beneath the canopy of the large maple. Many

different varieties of daffodils can be seen flowering throughout the early spring months. Other ornamental species that have been identified

include a single specimen of Verbena, several dozen lilies and tulips, crocus, grape hyacinth, two similar varieties of native iris, *Vinca minor*, mums, peonies, and a large patch of sweet violet. The period in which these plants were introduced into the cemetery landscape is unknown, although it is possible that they were planted more than a century

ago. The 1911 Eugene City Directory included an ornamental plant mail-order catalog for a company in Portland, Oregon that could be



Big leaf maple trees on east side of cemetery (Author, 2014)

the source of the ornamental plantings visible in the cemetery today. During cleanup events that occurred in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2010s brush piles were burned within the cemetery boundaries. Due to the intense heat from the fires, the soil at the locations of these fires was sterilized and any unidentified ornamental plantings growing in these locations

were lost. The locations of the 1990s and 2010s burn piles are still somewhat visible due to the existence of remnant charcoal, and grasses are continuing to re-colonize these areas. It is possible that clean up events have removed contributing trees or shrubs that were planted by the early settlers or their descendants. The documentation of the Luper cemetery took place in the winter and spring months. It is probable that additional undocumented plantings exist in the cemetery. Further inventories of ornamental plantings will need to be completed throughout the spring, summer and fall months in order to have a complete list of contributing ornamental cemetery plantings.

#### **Chapter 4 – Landscape Analysis and Evaluation**

The analysis and evaluation chapter for the Luper Pioneer Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report compares findings from the site history and existing conditions chapters to identify landscape characteristics and associated landscape features that have historical significance.



Bower family burial markers (Author, 2014)

Each landscape characteristic is analyzed in an objective manner based upon what was present in the cemetery historically and what currently remains landscape. The historic integrity and significance of each landscape characteristic and associated feature in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery are then evaluated in the context of the landscape as a whole.<sup>58</sup>

#### Overview of National Register Criterion

The significance of a historic landscape is defined in the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* as "the meaning or value ascribed to a cultural landscape based on [...] a combination of association and integrity."<sup>59</sup> The *National Register of Historic Places Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* explains that for a historic landscape to have historical significance, it must also be "associated with an important historic context and (retain) historic integrity of those features necessary to convey its significance."<sup>60</sup> A historic landscape and the associated features that contribute to its significance must also meet one or more of the National Register Criterion in order to be eligible for listing

58 Robert R. Page, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 69.

59 Birnbaum, Charles A, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 5.

60 *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (National Park Service, 1995), 3.

in the National Register of Historic Places. The required criteria as defined by the *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places* are as follows:

*National Register Criterion A:*

Historic cemeteries “can be eligible if they are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history [...] and may represent a variety of important aspects of an area’s early settlement and evolving sense of community.”<sup>61</sup>

*National Register Criterion B:*

Historic cemeteries “may be eligible if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past... the individual must be of outstanding importance to the community, State, or nation”<sup>62</sup>



Bond and Robertson family burial plots (Author, 2014)

*National Register Criterion C:*

Historic cemeteries “may be eligible if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may

lack individual distinction...funerary monuments and their associated art works, buildings, and landscapes associated with burial places

61 Elisabeth Potter, *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places* (National Park Service, 1992), 9.

62 *ibid.*, 11



Polly Craig burial marker (Author, 2014)

must be good representatives of their stylistic type or period and methods of construction or fabrication.”<sup>63</sup>

*National Register Criterion D:* Historic cemeteries “may be eligible if they have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history... burial places may be

eligible for their potential to yield information about cultural and ethnic groups...or also encompasses information important in the study of material culture and social history.”<sup>64</sup>

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery established ca. 1857 and declared as a burying ground in 1865, is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, as a landscape representative of rural settlement patterns on a regional level in the southern Willamette Valley of Oregon. The cemetery has a strong association with the surrounding properties that were purchased by pioneer families as part of donation land claims provided by the 1850 Donation Land Claim Act. Milton T. Aubrey’s deeding of the cemetery property to Thomas Tucker, William A. Baker (Thomas and Elizabeth’s son), William Thompson and their heirs in 1865 and the creation of a management organization, that would later become the

63 Elisabeth Potter, *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places* (National Park Service, 1992), 12.

64 Elisabeth Potter, *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places* (National Park Service, 1992), 14.

Irving Cemetery Association and re-established as Luper Cemetery Inc., exemplifies the cemetery's direct association to these early pioneer families. The Luper Cemetery Inc. not-for-profit organization and volunteers have completed a significant amount of genealogical research on the individuals and families buried in the Luper Pioneer



Simmons and Newman family burial plots (Author, 2014)

Cemetery. Their ongoing research has provided the foundation for documentation of a strong association between cemetery and the surrounding communities. The cemetery also has strong ties to the growth and evolution of settlement era communities during the middle to late nineteenth and early twentieth century. This information will be invaluable in placing the

cemetery on the National Register of Historic Places.

#### **Period of Significance Ca. 1853 to 1957**

The Luper Cemetery landscape has significance for its association with the early pioneer families who first settled donation land claims surrounding the location of the cemetery. While the cemetery was legally set aside as a burial ground in 1865, the period of significance begins in 1857 with the first documented burial and extends until 1957 with the first report of the site's overgrown appearance. There is a possibility that burials occurred prior to 1857 as Thomas and Elizabeth Baker settled the Luper Cemetery property upon their arrival in the Willamette Valley in 1853.



Laura Butler burial marker (Author, 2014)

Howard Humphrey Jr. claimed to have seen burial markers dating to 1843 and 1850 when visiting the cemetery in 1947, however upon returning to the cemetery in 1957 he wrote that he could not locate the markers. Due to the lack of documentation from the cemetery's earliest years, the period of significance is based upon extant burial markers and

can be adjusted upon the location of extensive documentation or the discovery of earlier burial markers in the future. Burials in the Luper Cemetery occurred consistently through the early 1930s and 40s and sporadically thereafter.

The most recent interments occurred in 1993 and 1995, respectively.



Louise and Lester Newman burial marker (Author, 2014)

These burials were for descendants of the Maxwell's, whose earliest extant burial marker in their family plot dates to the early 1890s. The 1990s Maxwell burials occurred within the family's portion of the cemetery. While these, and several other burials from the period of abandonment, took place outside the period of significance, they still contribute to the history and evolution of the historic cemetery

**Luper Pioneer Cemetery**

landscape, as they provide continuity of pioneer and descendent burials in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery.

### **Landscape Integrity**

Landscape integrity is defined as “the authenticity of a property’s historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property’s historic or prehistoric period.”<sup>65</sup>

The integrity of a historic landscape “is assessed to determine if the landscape characteristics and associated features, and the spatial

qualities that shaped the landscape during the historic period, are present in much the same way as they were historically.”<sup>66</sup> The National Register of Historic Places identifies the seven aspects of integrity of historic properties as the: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.<sup>67</sup>



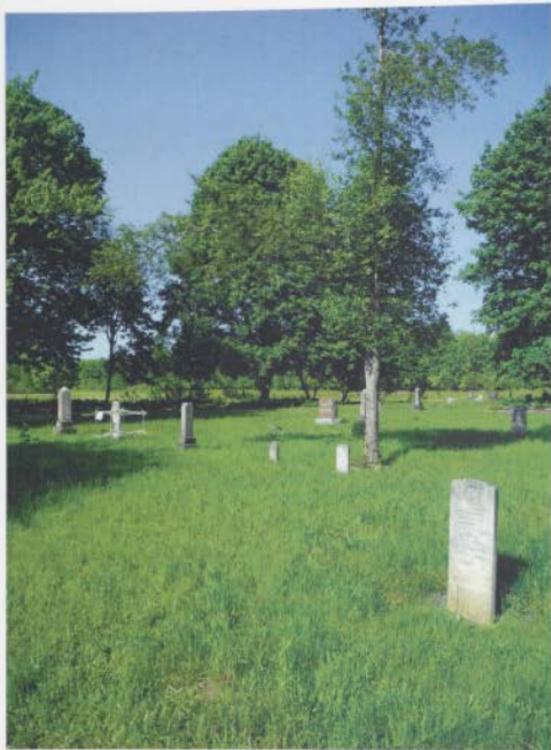
Elias Henry Brodie burial marker  
(Author, 2014)

Each of the seven aspects of integrity is addressed in response to the analysis of landscape conditions and narrative description of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery. The integrity of the cemetery landscape will be ranked high, moderate, and low based upon the analysis of the seven aspects of integrity. The ranking will assess the continuity and change

65 *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (National Park Service, 1995), 44-45.

66 Robert R. Page, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 71.

67 *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (National Park Service, 1995), 44-45.



Luper Cemetery (Author, 2014)

of the landscape with the retention of the character defining features from the period of significance serving as the primary focus. The ranking system will analyze later landscape features to determine their compatibility with the site's historic character. If features are found to be incompatible, their reversibility will be analyzed to determine the conflicting feature's impact on the historic character and integrity of the cultural landscape.<sup>68</sup>

**Evaluation of Historical Integrity**

**Location - High**

*Location is the place where*

*the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. The actual location of a historic property, complemented by its setting, is particularly important in recapturing the sense of historic events and persons.*

The location of the Luper Cemetery is largely intact. The property boundaries remain as originally deeded in 1865 with the entry road addition deeded in 1880. The loss of the 1880 entry road west of the cemetery boundary has had a low impact on the landscape's integrity

<sup>68</sup> Robert R. Page, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 72.

of location. Even with the loss of the 1880 access road, the cemetery location retains a *high level of integrity*.

#### *Design - Moderate*

*Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property. It results from conscious decisions made during the original conception and planning of a property (or its significant alteration) and applies to activities as diverse as community planning, engineering, architecture, and landscape architecture.*

*Design includes such elements as organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials.*

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery developed organically as the result of the inherent need for a burial ground near the donation land claims of early southern Willamette Valley settlers, and the small communities of Luper, Irving, Santa Clara, and Junction City. The cemetery was not formally planned, as it was the product of a vernacular tradition that included approximately 160 burials over a period of nearly 140 years planned by the families and friends of the deceased. The integrity

View west with Conrad family burials in foreground (Author, 2014)



of design at the Luper Cemetery is heavily associated with the massing, spatial arrangement, site layout, burial marker shape, ornate designs, and materials.

Throughout its 138 years of varying periods of active use and abandonment through 1995, the cemetery established and



Luper Cemetery (Author, 2014)

maintained a system of consistent burial placement in orderly rows running in a north/south direction. The 1990s and other post 1957 burials conformed to the historic spatial organization that began in cemetery's earliest years. It is possible that earlier markers were moved to create the orderly lines, however this is unlikely. There are open sections within the burial rows located in the middle of the cemetery. It is assumed that markers once loosely filled these locations, however no documentation of their existence has been located. High densities of burial markers are located in

the east and west portion of the cemetery. The northernmost side of the cemetery has few burials. Of the likely 160 burials recorded as having occurred in Luper Cemetery, only 133 (83%) are extant in the landscape. The majority of the cemetery circulation was added to the landscape in the early 2010s and is non-contributing.

A wide variety of ornamental bulbs and other perennial plantings are located sporadically throughout the cemetery landscape. Some plants are obviously associated with extant burial markers, but the locations of other ornamental perennials could serve as remnant evidence of the locations for additional unmarked burials. Due to

the loss of possible associated markers, it is unknown whether these plantings have naturally spread to other locations in the cemetery or remain in where they were originally planted. The design of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery has a *moderate integrity of design* as the rows of burial markers still have definition even with the loss of more than 30 burial markers that further defined and strengthened the landscape's organization. The sporadic ornamental bulb plantings located throughout the cemetery do not appear to retain their placement as they have likely moved from their original locations. Perennial plantings such as the lilac and roses likely remain in their intended locations.

#### Setting – Moderate/High

*Setting is the physical environment of a historic property. Whereas location refers to the specific place where a property was built or an event occurred, setting refers to the character of the place in which the property played its historical role. It involves how, not just where, the property is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space.*



Old maple prior to ice storm (Author, 2014)

The setting of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery has been slightly altered by the construction of the sanitary sewer and seasonal industrial waste disposal facility in 1983. The light industrial/agricultural property which is leased to a local farmer who uses the property to produce forage which likely has a similar appearance to agricultural



East side of the cemetery with agricultural fields and deciduous forests in distance (Author, 2014)



View to the northeast across core of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery (Author, 2014)



The cemetery and its setting as viewed from Prairie Road looking east to the foothills of the Cascade Mountains (Author, 2014)



Filtered view of the cemetery from near the interpretive kiosk. (Author, 2014)

commodities that were grown in the late nineteenth and early to mid twentieth century prior to the waste treatment facility's construction.<sup>69</sup> A significant re-grading occurred to the north and west of the cemetery to allow for a large center pivot irrigation system to be used.

The slough, which originally extended to near Prairie Road, was

filled in at the cemetery fence line due to its location within the pivot irrigation zone. The agricultural fields to the north of the cemetery were slightly excavated resulting in an approximate two-foot grade change at the northeast cemetery buffer fence line. Even with the

changes that have occurred to the surrounding landscape, the integrity of the cemetery setting has been retained.

The expansive views from the cemetery across the agricultural fields to the coastal mountain range

and the panoramic views to the surrounding fields exist on the

north and a portion of the west sides. The slough that forms the

<sup>69</sup> "Beneficial Reuse Site," Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission, 2014, accessed May 5, 2014, <http://www.mwmcpartners.org/brs.html>.



Cast zinc burial marker for Isaac, Hettie, and William Bond (Author, 2014)

*moderate to high level of integrity.* The appearance and land-use of the surrounding agricultural fields have changed very little.



Granite monolithic burial markers for J.A. and Sarah Bushnell (Author, 2014)

*of materials and technologies.*

The materials at the Luper Pioneer Cemetery are diverse as a result of more than 150 year s placement into the landscape. Extant burial

southern property boundary has a heavy understory growth that blocks views to Spencer's Butte during the spring and summer months. The trees are deciduous which allow for the reestablishment and reconnection of the views to the northern agricultural land and beyond during the winter months. The cemetery landscape setting has a

#### Materials - High

*Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. The choice and combination of materials reveal the preferences of those who created the property and indicated the availability of particular types*



Native Iris (Author, 2014)

markers date from 1857 to 1995 and are carved and constructed from a wide assortment of natural and engineered materials such as marble, limestone, sandstone, granite, concrete, zinc, and brick. The wide range of materials corresponds to the evolution of material availability and carving technology used to create and decorate the stones. The use of cast iron fence posts to mark the cemetery boundary further adds to the variety of materials present on the site.

Throughout the cemetery's history, a wide assortment of bulb and deciduous ornamental plantings

has been introduced into the cemetery landscape. The time at which these plantings were installed is unknown. The ornamental planting materials present in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery in 2014 include: lilac, heritage roses, numerous varieties of narcissus (daffodils), a single specimen of Verbena, several dozen lilies, grape hyacinth, two similar varieties of native iris, mums, peonies, Vinca minor, and a large patch of sweet violet. The ornamental plantings and burial markers found at the Luper Pioneer Cemetery have a *high level of integrity* as they are very diverse and represent changes in technology, social, and material culture in the Willamette Valley of southern Oregon over a



Clasped hands motif on the Eliza J. Ford burial marker (Author, 2014)

*Workmanship can apply to the property as a whole or to its individual components.*

period of nearly 140 years.

Workmanship - High Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. It is the evidence of artisans' labor and skill in constructing or altering a building, structure, object, or site.

The extant burial markers in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery are



Luper Pioneer Cemetery (Author, 2014)

representative of the work of named and unnamed stone carvers active in Oregon and other locations over the past 140 years. Two burial markers extant in the cemetery have carver's marks that directly associate the markers to marble works in Portland and Eugene, Oregon. The burial markers extant in the cemetery have a wide range of shapes, sizes,

forms, and design motifs that together give the cemetery its distinct character. The burial markers have a wide variety of iconography and symbolism consisting of both floral and faunal designs. These designs

include depictions of oak leaves and acorns, willows, roses, ivy, and bulrush along with images of fauna such as doves, and sheep. Many of the burial markers share similar iconography, however they are very different in their representation. The earliest extant burial markers are carved from marble with modern and contemporary markers craved from granite. The gravestones in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery have a high degree of craftsmanship and therefore have a *high level of integrity*.

#### Feeling - High

*Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.*

*It results from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey the property's historic character.*

The feeling experienced in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery landscape is the result of the interaction between several major character defining features located within and around the cemetery. These character defining features include the burial markers, ornamental plantings, and the site's setting in a primarily rural agricultural landscape with views to the Coastal mountain range and the foothills of the cascade mountain range. More than 160 burials are documented as having taken place at the Luper Cemetery. Of the burials documented, 133 markers and bases are extant. Other than the loss of a small number of burial landscape features, the cemetery landscape and its setting has likely changed little from its appearance in the late nineteenth century. The feeling the cemetery evoked in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century has likely remained unchanged. The cemetery is approximately a half-mile from the nearest road, which provided and continues to provide a tranquil setting for families and their descendants to honor and reflect on the lives of the individuals interred. The historic landscape feeling experienced by visitors entering the Luper Pioneer Cemetery has a *high level of integrity*.

#### Association - Low/Moderate

*Association is a direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. A property retains association if it is the place where the event or activity occurred and is sufficiently intact to convey that relationship to an observer.*

The association between the Luper Pioneer Cemetery and the donation land claims and local



The Luper Pioneer Cemetery (Author, 2014)

communities in which the deceased, their families, and friends, lived is largely absent from the cemetery landscape. The original 1880s road on which the funeral processions and visitors arrived to the cemetery was a direct link to the nearby communities located along Prairie Road. The relocation of the cemetery road in 1983 resulted

in the loss of this direct connection to these communities and the resulting indirect association. The burial markers themselves do not have an obvious ethnic association that would provide for an obvious connection to the surrounding local communities. Further research into the histories of the individuals and families interred within the cemetery along with their ethnic and cultural backgrounds could provide higher integrity of association through the tracing the direct and indirect association between the social culture and cemetery material culture that existed in the surrounding communities of Irving, Luper, Santa Clara, Junction City, and Eugene during the period of significance. Luper Cemetery has a *low to moderate integrity of association*.

Upon the determination of the landscape significance and integrity of the Luper Cemetery landscape, the features are evaluated based upon the landscape history and existing landscape conditions to determined whether they are character defining and contributing to the landscape

character, or a later addition or major modification that is non-contributing.

### Cultural Landscape Evaluation

#### Cemetery Approach – Non-Contributing

The entry sequence extending north from West Beacon Road to the



Cemetery approach north of W. Beacon Drive (Author, 2014)

south cemetery property boundary is non-historic as it was completed in 1984 upon the removal of the 1880s roadway. The approach is compatible, as it does not detract from the cemetery landscape and provides a similar experience to that of the original location.

#### Spatial Organization - Contributing

The cemetery setting is likely similar to that of the historic period, however the approach has been heavily altered. The construction of the light industrial wastewater treatment plant in 1983 affected the landscape more than any other event. The privately owned agricultural fields, which surrounded the cemetery from its inception, were converted into wastewater disposal areas. The conversion of family farms to corporate light industrial farming heavily altered the social ties of the rural agricultural community. Even with the cemetery in an abandoned state later in its history, the surrounding community likely helped to keep an eye on the cemetery. Hay's mention of asking permission at the house on the cemetery entry road in his 1980s survey reinforces the existence of this limited security and relationship, although tenuous, between



Luper Cemetery as viewed from approximate location of 1880s cemetery entrance. (Author, 2014)



Burial markers (Author, 2014)

the cemetery and surrounding community.

The spatial organization within the Luper Pioneer Cemetery is largely unchanged from its early appearance. Of the more than 160 burial markers that were placed in orderly rows, 133 (83%) of these markers remain in situ. The orderly organization of the cemetery and

its relationship to the surrounding landscape remains unchanged even with the construction of the wastewater treatment plant. Existing

'T' fence posts indicating the cemetery's historic boundaries are important as they define the physical property boundaries of the historic cemetery.

#### Cemetery Circulation

Northern west to east pathway

alignment: *Contributing*

All other contemporary mulch

pathways: *Non-Contributing*

During the historic period, the cemetery was entered through a gate near the center of the west property boundary. Aerial imagery from the 1930s indicates a linear worn pathway leading from the entrance gate to the east side of the cemetery. No other circulation was visible in the



Mulch pathway in the cemetery core  
(Author, 2014)

near the Robinson family plot. The gate was reported to be missing in Daniel W. Hays' 1980 inventory of Lane County Cemeteries, however the entrance pathway still passed through the location where the gate was once located.

The existing circulation within the cemetery boundaries consists

Cemetery pathway (Author, 2014)



aerial imagery. A short section of the contemporary mulch pathway follows the general alignment of the 1930s pathway. The culvert and gate south of the cemetery date from the construction of the all-weather existing site circulation is contemporary in nature, as little documentation of the site's historic circulation exists. A gate was once located on the west fence line

of mulch walkways that were installed using mulch donated by a local tree care company. The mulch pathways begin south of the swale, near the entrance gate and interpretive kiosk, and pass over the drainage culvert where they branch out into the cemetery. The pathways circle the core of the site and pass through areas with higher densities of burial markers.



West to east contributing cemetery pathway alignment (Author, 2014)

The west to east pathway passing south of the Robinson family plot and through the middle of the Maxwell family plot follows the approximate alignment of the path visible in the 1930s aerial imagery. The contemporary mulch pathways are non-contributing, but are compatible with the cemetery's historic character.

#### Views and Vistas

Approach Vistas: *Non-Contributing*

Cemetery Internal Vistas: *Contributing*

Cemetery External Vistas: *Contributing*

The historic approach to the Luper Cemetery that the City of Eugene removed in 1983 historically provided panoramic views to the foothills of the Cascade Range, along with views to Spencer's Butte and the South Eugene Hills upon its entire length. With the relocation of the entrance road to its present-day southern approach, the view of the foothills of the Cascade Range is now obscured by the overgrown slough immediately to the east of the road. Even with its relocation, the cemetery all-weather road provides a similar experience to that of the historic road alignment as it provides panoramic views to the surrounding agricultural landscape and nearby Cascade and Coastal mountain ranges. While the views are different than what was experienced in the original alignment, the contemporary entrance reinforces the landscape's setting and sense of place. The



Contemporary entrance gateway and filtered views across slough into the cemetery core (Author, 2014)

contemporary parking area immediately adjacent to the cemetery and entrance zone, where the path crosses the slough, provides filtered views of the cemetery. Visitors entering the cemetery from the contemporary entrance experience spatial compression as they pass from the open parking area across the slough where there is dense tree canopy and shade, and finally enter into the much more open expanse of the two acre cemetery. While this entry sequence is not historic, it is compatible.



Overgrown trees and shrubs on west buffer zone block views to the Coastal mountain range (Author, 2014)

The cemetery itself retains the majority of its historic vistas. Historical aerial imagery depicts the floodplain east of the cemetery to be largely clear of shrubs and trees. This likely provided a much clearer view of the foothills of the Cascade Range from within the cemetery. Currently the Flat Creek floodplain is heavily overgrown which largely blocks all views to the east. The southern vista is largely blocked as a result of a dense tree canopy in and adjacent to the slough. The views to the north and west remain largely clear except for some small trees and shrubs growing in the buffer zone between

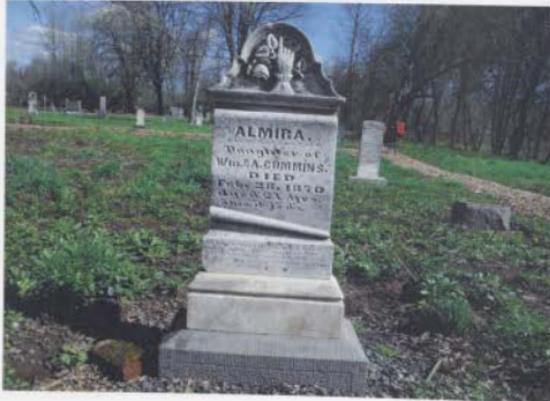
the cemetery property boundary and the wastewater treatment plant fence. This vegetation partially blocks the view from the west side of the cemetery, however it does not have a major affect on the westward views from the eastern side of the cemetery. Views within the cemetery are largely open except for the two mature maples growing in the eastern side of the cemetery. The close proximity of these trees combined with their low canopies and large leaves block the expansive views during the summer months. However, upon losing their leaves in the wintertime, the views within the cemetery are reestablished.

### Structures (Gravestones and Burial Features)

Burial Markers and Landscape Burial Features: *Contributing*  
Interpretive Kiosk: *Non-Contributing*

Burial markers in the Luper Cemetery are overall in fair condition even with the site's more than six-decade abandonment and subsequent vandalism. As a result of the 2009 vandalism event, which resulted in most of the markers being toppled and/or broken, Luper Cemetery, Inc. began the long process of repairing the inflicted damage and

Almira Cummins burial marker  
(Author, 2014)



resetting all of the markers.

Shattered and heavily damaged burial markers were repaired using epoxy and mortar. Fragments, footstones, and entire burial markers continue to be discovered by cemetery volunteers through probing. Contemporary markers contribute to the continuity of the cemetery landscape from the

**Luper Pioneer Cemetery**



Cast iron fence post discovered on east fence line used as interpretive display near entrance (Author, 2014)

historic to contemporary period. The redwood interpretive kiosk located at the adjacent parking area is of recent origin and does not date from the period of significance. The stained redwood kiosk is located outside of the cemetery's historic zone and is compatible with the historic landscape. The kiosk provides a contextual history of the local communities and families who are interred at Luper Cemetery.

#### Small Scale Landscape Features

Internal Fence posts: *Contributing*

1983 Exterior Buffer Fence: *Non-Contributing*

Benches: *Non-Contributing*

Cemetery Signs: *Non-Contributing*

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery small-scale landscape features are of contemporary and historic origin. The cast iron and modern "T" fence posts are important in understanding the historic boundaries



Rustic bench under apple tree on east side of cemetery (Author, 2014)

of the cemetery. The fence posts contribute to the visual definition of cemetery boundaries. The recently constructed benches are compatible with the landscape of the pioneer cemetery as they are rustic in appearance, are located on the perimeter of the site, and have a thin profile. While compatible with the pioneer

cemetery landscape, the benches are non-contributing as a result of their contemporary installation. Interpretive and informational signage has been installed on trees growing within the historic boundaries of the cemetery. These signs are incompatible to the historic character of the pioneer cemetery.

### Cemetery Vegetation

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery landscape is composed of contributing and non-contributing natural landscape features. The repeated cleanups, fires, have likely resulted in the loss of introduced ornamental contributing vegetative material. The more than 60 years of abandonment likely smothered some bulbs and other historically introduced ornamental plantings. The overgrown cemetery landscape provided an ideal habitat for maple and cherry, and hawthorn seedlings along with many other non-contributing invasive, native, and non-native plant species. Seasonal bulbs and other ornamental plantings



Daffodils growing around the burial marker of Mary Jennings (Author, 2014)

cemetery landscape.

continue to be visible in the landscape today however many specimen are mowed during the spring and summer months. The ornamental vegetation was specifically placed in the landscape for aesthetic and symbolic reasons. While it is likely that the plants have moved and multiplied over time, they are significant for their deliberate placement in the



Old Oak in northwest corner of cemetery (Author, 2014)

Upon analyzing the significance, existing conditions, and use, a landscape treatment providing a preservation strategy for long-term management of the historic landscape is compiled. The landscape treatment provides philosophical guidelines for the management of contributing and non-contributing landscape features. The Landscape treatment

will consider management goals including public access, preservation of natural resources, contemporary use, and interpretation.<sup>70</sup>

## **Chapter 5 – Treatment**

### **Landscape Preservation Treatment Exploration**

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery serves as the final resting place for more than 160 individuals interred between Ca. 1857 and 1995. The maintenance and management for the cemetery landscape was first addressed in 1865 with the creation of a management body comprised of family and descendants to whom Milton T. Aubrey tasked with the perpetual management of the cemetery site. The appearance of the cemetery during the earliest part of its period of significance is unknown beyond the extant burial markers and an assortment of ornamental bulbs and perennials that were possibly introduced into the landscape during this period. Very little early cemetery documentation has been located prior to the tenuous genealogical documentation

<sup>70</sup> Robert R. Page, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 81.



Luper Pioneer Cemetery (Author, 2014)



Lavinia Thurman burial marker beneath large maples on east side of the cemetery (Author, 2014)

that occurred in the 1940s. This documentation recorded the genealogical information inscribed on the burial markers but failed to make note of the landscape in which the burial markers were located.

The cemetery has had a varied maintenance history with nearly 60 years of near abandonment when

the site was overgrown and suffered repeated acts of severe vandalism.

The cemetery is currently managed by the Luper Cemetery Inc., a not for profit organization who's goals are to protect, stabilize, maintain, and interpret the cemetery to "engage the community in local history"<sup>71</sup> The management guidelines that are proposed as part of the landscape treatment for the Luper Pioneer Cemetery will work to ensure the non-profit's goals are met while addressing the site's history, integrity, and existing conditions of the cemetery landscape and character defining features. The landscape treatment will provide

management objectives for the maintenance of both the built and vegetative landscape features.

71 2012 Luper Pioneer Cemetery Management Plan, February 9, 2012 (Luper Cemetery Inc. Files), March, 2014.



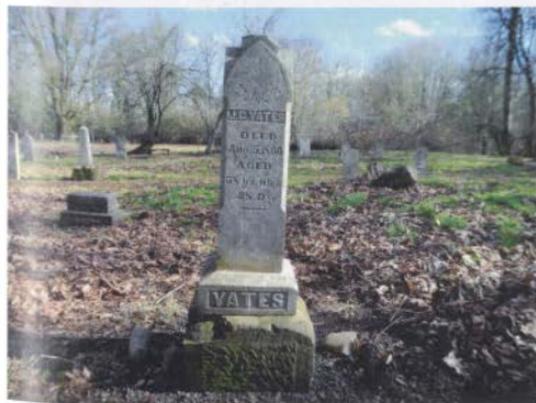
Charles Alvah Bushnell burial marker in the Bushnell family plot on the east side of the cemetery. (Author, 2014)

The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* recommends four approaches to addressing historic landscapes. Each of the four approaches has varying levels of intervention with preservation being the most limited, and reconstruction being the most intensive. These approaches are: Preservation, Restoration, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction and have varying levels of management.

The treatments available for historic landscapes begin with preservation as the most limited approach, to reconstruction, which is the most

intensive with the removal or recreation of landscape elements.

The selection of a landscape treatment is based upon the condition



J.C. Yates burial marker (Author, 2014)

and integrity of the landscape's character defining features and the landscape's intended use. As the intensity of the landscape treatment increases from preservation to reconstruction, the need for documentation and treatment justification also increases. The treatments as defined by the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*



V.S. McClure burial marker (Author, 2014)

with *Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* defines the four treatment approaches as follows:

#### Preservation

*Preservation is defined as 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.*<sup>72</sup>

#### Rehabilitation

*Rehabilitation is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features, which convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.*<sup>73</sup>

*Rehabilitation* involves giving the landscape a new, compatible use while retaining the landscape's character defining features.

#### Restoration

*Restoration is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting*

<sup>72</sup> Birnbaum, Charles A, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 18.

<sup>73</sup> Birnbaum, Charles A, *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 18.

*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.*<sup>74</sup>

### Reconstruction

*Reconstruction is defined as 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>75</sup>

*Reconstruction* is the recreation of missing or highly degraded landscape elements in order to return the landscape to its appearance in an earlier set point in time or to its appearance during the period of significance.

The selection of a landscape treatment approach is based upon management, resource, and operational factors. Management factors include the management objectives and proposed use; Resource-based factors include the landscape's historical integrity and significance, the level of historical documentation, existing conditions, and threats and resource conflicts. Finally, the operational factors include health and safety, maintenance requirements, and projected costs.<sup>76</sup>

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74 Birnbaum, Charles A. *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 18.

75 Birnbaum, Charles A. *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 18.

76 Robert R. Page, *A Guide to Cultural Landscape Reports: Contents, Process, and Techniques* (Washington D.C.: National Park Service, 1996), 85.

### Treatment Recommendation - Preservation

The treatment recommendation for the entirety of the two-acre Luper Pioneer Cemetery within its pre-1983 boundaries is preservation. Preservation landscape treatment is the most appropriate approach to the management of the historic Luper Pioneer Cemetery landscape due to several key factors which include: the tenuous nature of early cemetery surveys and documentation attempts, the loss of some landscape integrity through vandalism and abandonment, and the overall lack of nineteenth and early twentieth cemetery descriptions, photographs, letters, diagrams, and plot maps that would provide the required information that would inform other treatment approaches. These documents, if they exist, would provide the background information needed to select a different treatment approach. The documents have not been located through extensive archival research. If documents pertaining to the early appearance, development, and evolution of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery were located during future research, the Luper Pioneer Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report treatment recommendations should be revised. The unavailability of historic documents results in significant complications to the documentation needed to rehabilitate, restore, and reconstruct the landscape and its missing character defining landscape features. The selection of preservation as the most appropriate landscape treatment provides a philosophical framework in which the landscape's history and integrity can be managed and landscape integrity retained in its entirety.

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery should be documented and preserved, as it currently exists. The cemetery retains a moderate to high overall integrity, which clearly defines the site's distinct sense of place. The



Mary M. Jennings burial marker  
(Author, 2014)

cemetery's level of integrity provides continuity of association to the surrounding communities and descendants of Willamette Valley settlers interred between Ca. 1857 and the cemetery's abandonment in 1957.

### Management Zones

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery Landscape should be divided into three distinct zones, each with a specific management approach. The three zones are the all-weather road and associated features beginning at West Beacon Drive, the perimeter buffer, and the cemetery core within the pre-1983 property boundaries as indicated by the extant remnant fence posts. The use of a zone

system allows for three different management approaches for the three distinctly different landscape types both contemporary and historic.

The contemporary approach and buffer are of a modern origin and will have distinctly different impacts both direct and indirect to the historic cemetery core. The three distinct zones that are addressed in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery landscape treatment are as follow:



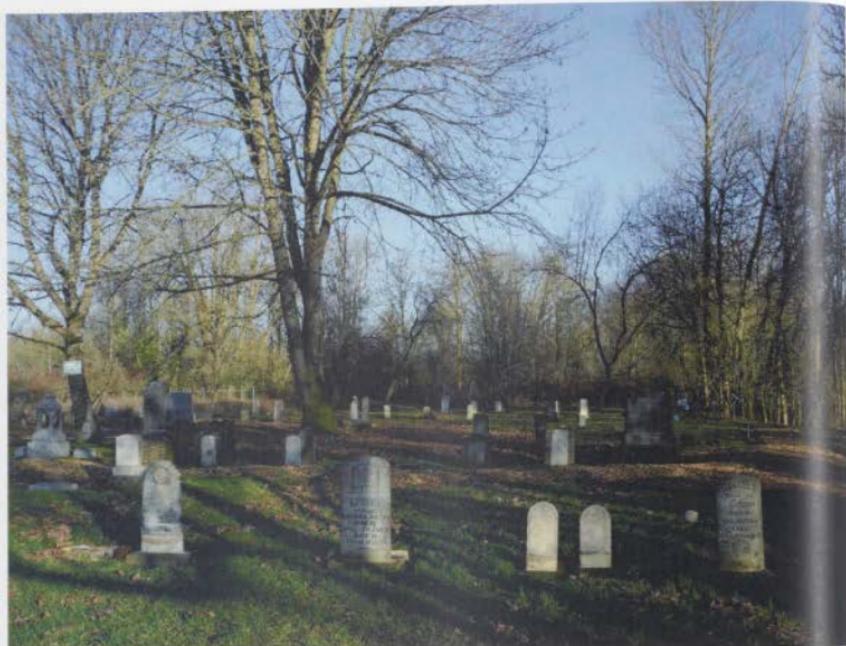
Zone 1 including primary and secondary gates, parking areas, interpretive zone, and all-weather road(Author, 2014)

**Zone 1:** The first zone consists of the entrance parking at West Beacon Drive, the entry drive contained within the two wire fences, the secondary parking adjacent to the cemetery, and finally the interpretive zone, which spans from the second gate to the earthen bridge across the slough. The width of the interpretive zone spans from the west support post of the interpretive kiosk to the proposed location of the memorial stone as determined at the April 9, 2014 Luper Cemetery Inc. board meeting. The area that falls beyond these two locations is part of Zone 2.



Zone 2 includes the 1983 buffer and natural slough. (Author, 2014)

**Zone 2:** The second zone consists of an approximately 12' buffer strip created in 1983 with the construction of the waste water treatment plant. The buffer is comprised of the land between the historic fence posts and the contemporary wire fence that borders the north, west, south, and a portion of the east cemetery historic property boundary. The buffer zone includes the slough.



Zone 3 consists of the historic cemetery core within the boundaries of the pre-1983 fence. (Author, 2014)

**Zone 3:** The third zone consists of the historic cemetery itself within the historic property lines indicated by 'T' Posts believed to date to the cemetery's period of significance.

The only zone that will be addressed under the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* is the historic cemetery which comprises the entirety of Zone 3. Management goals for the preservation of the cemetery's setting as they relate to Zones 1 and 2 will also be discussed.

### Zone 1 Treatment (Entry Approach and Interpretation)

The contemporary entry approach and parking areas are outside of the zone of the preservation treatment for the historic cemetery core. It is understood that the Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission and the City of Eugene primarily manage this zone, however it is important that Luper Cemetery Inc. work with these

organizations to ensure the setting and views from the cemetery approach are maintained.

The entrance drive and areas are compatible with the site's historic character and should be managed to provide eastern and western views to the surrounding agricultural fields, the foothills of the Cascade Range, and the

Coastal Range mountains along as much of the road's length as possible. The current views to the east and west within the entry road sequence should be managed, as they currently exist. The connection between the road and the surrounding agricultural fields is important for providing a similar experience and setting to that of the original 1880 entrance road located west of the cemetery. The gate and parking area on West Beacon Road should be retained under the cemetery's preservation plan so that the cemetery is maintained as a secure area. The locked vehicular gate with side pedestrian entry will ensure public access to the cemetery while assisting with the retention and preservation of the cemetery's extant character defining features.



Southern view to Spencer's Butte from secondary parking, gate, and interpretive area. (Author, 2014)



Secondary gate and interpretive area  
(Author, 2014)

The entrance zone adjacent to the slough currently serves as an interpretive area with an existing redwood kiosk and planned memorial stone to be installed in the fall of 2014.

The entrance zone is non-contributing, but is highly visible from the core of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery. Any future additions to

this interpretive zone should be kept to a minimum so that they do not over power the view into the cemetery or detract from the character of the adjacent pioneer cemetery. Compatible additions should be of a similar material typology as the existing redwood kiosk, and markers dating from the period of significance excluding monolithic granite forms. Views from the entrance interpretive zone into the cemetery are important for security and give visitors a sense of arrival upon passing through the second gate. No trees or shrubs larger than 4 feet should be planted or allowed to grow in this zone as upon maturity they would block the vistas along the entrance road and would also block the important sight lines from the interpretive area into the cemetery.

#### Zone 2 Treatment (Cemetery Buffer)

The management of the buffer zone between the waste water treatment plant and the cemetery's historic boundary is important due to its close proximity and direct association with the cemetery core. The cemetery buffer zone is approximately twelve feet wide although the exact dimensions vary along its length. The current appearance



Filtered view of the cemetery from near the interpretive kiosk. (Author, 2014)



Buffer near the northwest corner of the cemetery looking east towards old maple. (Author, 2014)

of the cemetery buffer zone is varied. The buffer excluding the slough should have a singular management strategy. Areas within the buffer with *Vinca minor* as a ground cover should be maintained with the only management being the removal of invasive blackberry and volunteer trees. Areas that are currently mowed should continue to be maintained in the same way.

The section of west buffer that is heavily overgrown should be cleared of small native trees and large shrubs so that views to the surrounding

landscape from the cemetery are maintained. No ornamentals were documented as growing in this zone, however if ornamentals are discovered, they should be left in situ.

The slough should be managed as a “natural” area with the only maintenance actions being the planting of native grasses and small shrubs with special attention being given to the preservation of the sight lines from the interpretive zone to the cemetery, the cemetery into the slough, and views between the cemetery and the south agricultural fields during the winter months, and the removal of invasive blackberry and other invasive and naturalizing species.

### Zone 3 (Historic Cemetery Core)

Zone three consists of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery within its historic boundaries indicated by metal 'T' Posts likely dating from before 1957. The treatment approach as defined by the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* should be preservation. The preservation of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery will maintain the landscape, as it currently exists with no major alterations or additions. Any alterations or additions beyond basic landscape maintenance would likely result in a loss of historic integrity and could jeopardize the effectiveness of future preservation, documentation, and research efforts. The preservation treatment of Luper Pioneer Cemetery contributing and non-contributing landscape features will be addressed through their landscape characteristics. The primary landscape characteristics and associated treatments for the Luper Pioneer Cemetery are as follow:

#### Spatial Organization

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery's character is derived by its open landscape that extends through the property boundaries to the surrounding agricultural fields and beyond to the surrounding mountains. The landscape's appearance is defined by the lack of large trees other than the two large non-contributing maples in the east, the contributing old maple in the northwest corner, and an assortment of other trees both native, volunteer, and introduced. The repetitive linear arrangement of burial markers running north to south with the majority facing west is also very important in creating the cemetery's internal spatial definition.

### Circulation

The wood chip pathways located throughout the Luper Pioneer Cemetery are contemporary additions. A portion of the pathway extending from the area of the historic gate on the west property



West to east contributing cemetery pathway alignment (Author, 2014)

documentation of the historic period pathway alignment, width, and materials is found that could inform a restoration of this feature's



Pathway located between Almira Cummings and Laura Butler markers should be relocated. (Author, 2014)

character. A portion of the circulation on the west side of the cemetery should be relocated due to its crossing over known burials. The pathway should be situated so that it provides visual access to information on the markers, but does not pass directly over the burial plots. The pathway

that passes directly in front of the Almira Cummins marker should be relocated to the space between the

Laura Butler and Addie Davis burials. The new alignment should pass west of the Laura Butler, Minerva Butler, Emagene and Eugene Butler and unknown base before rejoining the existing pathway. The relocated pathway should not cross over the historic property line indicated by the extant 'T' posts and should be offset approximately one foot from burial marker bases so that they are not accidentally damaged by visitors. Relocating the pathway will allow for the Minerva Butler footstone to be reset in the location it was found. In locations where the walkway passes over ornamental plantings, the walkway should be adjusted so that contributing plantings are not trampled. No additional pathways should be created within the cemetery. Existing and proposed pathways should be maintained seasonally.

#### Views and Vistas

The setting of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery and its distinct sense of place are strongly tied to the internal and external cemetery views.



Low branches on maple trees block views to the western agricultural fields and Coastal Mountain range (Author, 2014)

The preservation of the external views to the surrounding landscape including agricultural fields and coastal mountain range are essential to preserving the cemetery's landscape setting. Internal views should be retained within the cemetery's historic property boundaries through the selective pruning of the two large maples on the east side of the

cemetery. A certified arborist should remove lower branches, which impede sight lines.

### Structures (Burial Markers)

The landscape structures located in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery consist of the burial markers dating from Ca. 1857 to 1995. The majority of the burial markers in the cemetery were extensively repaired and reset by the Luper Pioneer Cemetery Board of directors and volunteers with assistance from Donovan and Associates, Historic Preservation Consultants between early 2010 and 2013. The conservation work included repairing toppled and shattered markers, casting new concrete bases for markers whose sandstone bases had failed, and minimal cleaning with a soft brush.

Future burial marker conservation should be completed with continued direct guidance from a qualified materials conservator. All burial markers and repairs are different and as a result will require that treatment decisions be made on a case-by-case basis. Burial markers undergoing conservation should be photographed before, during and after the repair/stabilization. Upon the completion of the repair, a treatment report with photographs and a detailed explanation of the scope and extent of repairs completed should be compiled. The treatment report should be added to the 2014 and future cemetery inventory and assessment reports as documentation of completed repairs. Burial markers continue to be discovered on site and elsewhere. Upon the future discovery of any future markers, fragments, and other archaeological features, it is important that these are photographed and mapped on the 2012 cemetery survey completed by Roberts Surveying, Inc. Great care should be taken not to rush the repair process, as a high level of craftsmanship is more important than speed in conservation work. Several recently repaired



Dripping epoxy on Robert B. McClure burial marker is irreversible. (Author, 2014)

markers have evidence of dripping epoxy and excess mortar that was not properly wiped clean. The remnant epoxy and mortar that was not cleaned from the surface of the stone is now a permanent part of the burial marker and cannot be removed without irreversibly damaging the surface of the stone.

The cemetery burial markers are

all character defining features that contribute to the cultural landscape of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery. These markers and bases should be left in situ. Upon the determination by a qualified conservator that a base can no longer support the marker in which it was intended, the base should be left where it rests, and the burial marker set into its new base should be placed directly in front of the remnants of the original base. The new concrete base should be set with its top approximately two inches above grade. The original base is part of the cemetery's historic

Heavily fragmented base for unknown marker. (Author, 2014)



fabric and should not be removed or relocated. The replacement base should be set onto pea gravel rather than the current large diameter grey stone material being used. The pea gravel has a finer texture that is much more similar to the texture of the stone markers located in the cemetery dating from the historic period.



Replacement base for Lavina Moore placed in front of original base. (Author, 2014)

Burial markers should only be replaced at the direction of a qualified conservator as a last resort due to extensive deterioration or irreparable damage. Replacement markers should be of a similar form, size, shape and material as to be compatible with the historic landscape. Only the original

inscription and contemporary date of installation should be inscribed on the replacement burial marker. The replacement marker should be representative of the original period marker and the intent of the family who selected and placed the marker in the cemetery at the time of the individual's death. If a descendent requests that a historic marker be replaced, a conservator should be consulted to determine whether the original marker needs to be replaced or if it could be conserved. If replacement is necessary, the original marker should be retained and stored on site or in an off site location where it will not be lost or forgotten. The storage location of the burial marker should be documented to allow for future study.

The cemetery markers in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery are heavily soiled as the result of nearly 150 years of exposure to the elements and biological growth. Many markers are in stable condition and could benefit from careful cleaning by a qualified materials conservationist. The cleaning of burial markers should be addressed on a case-by-case basis, as each marker will require different approaches to ensure



Dark veining on the light grey marble marker is visible where mortar has detached. The exposed stone color is how the marker was intended to be viewed in the cemetery. (Author, 2014)



The original location of the Harriet Wadsworth burial marker is unknown. The marker is set into a replacement base (Author, 2014)

their preservation. Several burial markers are in poor condition and should not be cleaned as cleaning could cause irreversible damage.

Any markers that are known to have been located in different location then they currently sit, should be relocated back to their original placement. An example of this is the Lyman burials. The

discovery of two original stone bases with dimensions matching that of the Lyman burial tablets, and the discovery of a footstone fragment belonging to Mary Lyman located 6 feet east of her matching base is

enough evidence to move the two markers back to their original locations. These markers should be placed directly in front of the associated original gravestone bases. Markers with an unknown original location should be thoroughly documented in literature as not being in their historic location. It is important that this information be interpreted to the public as to not create a false sense of history.

Bricks and other lightweight materials discovered through probing should be photographed, mapped, and reburied as they are contributing archaeological features and are highly vulnerable to being moved.

If these items are moved away from the location of their discovery they will lose their context in the landscape. If this



Unidentified fragments should be documented, mapped, and reburied. (Author, 2014)

currently exist as the fence posts and remnant fencing are contributing landscape features that provide spatial definition to the historic



T-Post from pre-1983 fence. (Author, 2014)

information on the appearance of this earlier fence.

occurs, important archaeological information including the location of possible unmarked burials would be lost.

### Small Scale Landscape Features

#### *Fence Posts*

All historic 'T' fence posts discovered along the boundary between the cemetery and the buffer should be left where they

boundaries of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery. Cast iron fence posts, such as the one discovered along the east fence line and currently set in concrete near the contemporary entrance, should be left in the location that they are originally found. Moving fence posts outside of their historic placement negatively affects landscape integrity. The broken cast iron fence post discovered on the north fence line in the spring of 2014 should be re-welded to its base at the location it was found. Future fence post discoveries should be documented and reset in the location along the property line that they are found. Remnant fencing material located along the slough should not be removed, as it is the last remnant of the likely pre-1980s fencing material and provides

### *Benches*

Contemporary benches were added to the Luper Pioneer Cemetery in the period since Luper Cemetery Inc. began to manage the cemetery in 2009. The benches, constructed from wood slabs of an unknown type, are compatible with the historic cemetery landscape as they are



Contemporary rustic bench beneath apple tree adjacent to east buffer. (Author, 2014)

located on the periphery near the historic property boundaries. The rustic benches are nondescript and do not distract from the landscape itself. The use of a large branch from the old maple tree as a bench in the northwest corner where it fell is appropriate as it continues the rustic design vocabulary using natural materials.

### *Signage*

Signage within the historic boundaries of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery is a major concern. Two large white signs indicating volunteers affiliated with Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism (SOLV) organization cleaned the cemetery have been nailed approximately nine feet above the ground in two separate mature trees within the historic property boundaries. These signs are modern intrusions that heavily detract from the historic character of the pioneer cemetery. The two large signs nailed to trees within the historic core of the cemetery have become excessively worn due to exposure to the elements over a period of several years. These signs and the nails supporting them should be removed. A third sign, consisting of a laminated sheet of paper has also



Sign attached to cherry tree near northwest corner of cemetery near old Big Maple. (Author, 2014)

been nailed to a small tree growing on the historic property boundary. This sign should be relocated to the interpretive kiosk located in the contemporary entry zone.

A third SOLV sign is located on the entry fence facing the parking area adjacent to the Luper Pioneer Cemetery. The location of this sign is compatible as it is located outside of the historic core. Like the other two SOLV signs, this one has also become heavily worn and should be replaced. Interpretive panels located

within the cemetery boundaries should be maintained with the laminated interpretive text being replaced upon becoming soiled by moisture exposure. Additional interpretive panels within the cemetery boundaries should be kept at a bare minimum as to not overpower the extant character defining features. No signs should be affixed to trees within the historic core of the cemetery in the future.

### Vegetation

The Luper Pioneer Cemetery plantings consist of both contributing and noncontributing native and introduced trees, shrubs, grasses, and other ornamentals. The cemetery vegetative materials should be managed with the same care and expertise as the burial markers themselves. Just as the families and friends of the deceased placed the burial markers in the landscape, the plantings also tell the story from the time of burial to the present day. Many ornamental bulbs and several perennial plant species such as a lilac and heirloom roses are plant species that are



Bachelor's button (*Centaurea montana*), a perennial, grows in a burial plot bordered by a concrete curb. (Author, 2014)

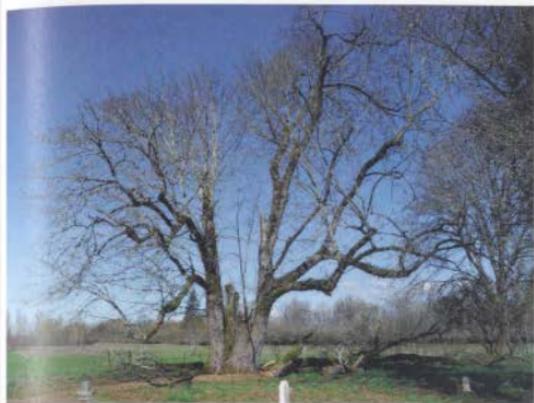
should be allowed.

commonly found in settlement era landscapes. These plantings are cultural features that tell a large amount about the importance of the cemetery to the surrounding community, and the maintenance and beautification that took place prior to its abandonment during the middle of the twentieth century. No new plantings within the historic boundaries of the cemetery

#### *Big Leaf Maple*

The large multi-trunk Big Leaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) in the northwest corner of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery is approximately 140 years old. This date was determined through the non-invasive coring of the largest branch located on the southeast side of the tree. The tree has stood as a silent witness for nearly the entire history of the cemetery's development. The maple tree is in poor condition and is in a state of decline. A certified arborist should monitor the maple tree and remove limbs that are deemed by the arborist to be unsafe.

The replacement of this integral landscape feature should be planned in advance to mitigate the impact of the tree's unavoidable loss. There are several alternatives available from the preservation of the tree's genetics to its replacement in kind. The first option, which is the preferred alternative, is to create a graft and grow a genetic clone of the tree. The creation of a clone will ensure the historic tree's genetic



The Big leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) in the northwest corner of the cemetery is estimated to be 140 years old. (Author, 2014)

and the graft started several years before the maple is expected to reach a point that it will need to be removed for safety reasons. A clone that has had several years to grow in a nursery setting will be much stronger and have a greater likelihood of surviving its first few years in the landscape upon installation.



Several large branches fell from the maple during a spring ice storm. (Author, 2014)

any of the old maple's genetic material, but over time will grow to take

material is preserved in the form of a vigorous young sapling that will take its place and likely last another 150 years. The Oregon State University Horticulture program or extension service, or local Master Gardner's Association should be contacted, as they will have the expertise needed to take a cutting and create a successful graft. The cutting should be taken,

The second alternative is to harvest and plant a seed from the tree that will share some of its parent's genetic material. This seedling should be grown for several years on or off site and planted into the cemetery landscape in the location of the old maple upon its removal. The final alternative is to replace in kind with a tree of the same species. This tree will not share



Lilac shrub grows in the Jennings family burial plot on the east side of the cemetery (Author, 2014)



Large apple tree near east pre-1983 fence line (Author, 2014)

the place of the original contributing Big Leaf Maple tree.

#### *Contributing Trees and Shrubs*

The apple trees located within the historic boundaries of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery are of an unknown origin and should be retained, as not enough information exists to adequately determine their significance. Further research should be completed to determine whether or not these trees are from the historic period.

These trees show signs of having been pruned and shaped, and it is possible that descendants of those buried in the cemetery planted and maintained them at an earlier point in the cemetery's history. The apple trees do not

seed profusely and as a result do not threaten the contributing built

landscape. The several apples varieties located in the cemetery should be researched. If these trees are heirloom varieties, this will determine that they were in fact planted rather than growing as volunteers.

Several shrubs can be seen growing throughout the cemetery. These include a single specimen

of lilac and at least three heirloom roses. The shrubs should be pruned

seasonally to promote flowering, and new sprouts on the lilac should be selectively pruned as to allow a balance of new and mature growth. As mature branches on the lilac die, new growth should be allowed to take their place.

#### Non-Contributing Trees

The two large maples on the east side of the cemetery are approximately 40 to 50 years old based upon available aerial imagery. These trees and the mature cherry and hawthorns should be allowed to remain in the cemetery until their loss. At the time of their loss, they should be removed and not replaced. It is important that a certified arborist monitors these trees and determines when they should

be removed so that character-defining features are not damaged or destroyed. These trees seed profusely and the majority of trees under 5" diameter at breast height (DBH) are of these three species. Visible damage to many burial markers, curbs, and slabs can be attributed to the maple, cherry and hawthorn seedlings and saplings.

All trees less than 5" diameter

DBH determined to be non-contributing should be removed. The preservation of character defining landscape features in the cemetery should have a higher priority than the seasonal aesthetics of these three primary tree species. All trees growing along the historic fence line, excluding the apple trees should be removed as they block the external views and are their growth is the direct result of deferred maintenance



Sapling cherry trees growing near the northeast cemetery corner should be removed. (Author, 2014)



Daffodils growing around Mary Jennings burial marker. (Author, 2014)

in the period prior to the removal of the fencing material.

#### *Seasonal Ornamental Bulbs*

The seasonal ornamental bulbs located in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery contribute to the cemetery's historic character and landscape development. While these plantings may not be in their original location, their existence

and survival in the landscape adds to the landscape integrity and in doing this allows for a better understanding of the design and cemetery planting aesthetic choices of settlement era and early to mid twentieth century Oregonians.

The current maintenance plan is to maintain the cemetery grass at



A lilly mowed down by a lawnmower (Author; 2014)

a short height. In doing this ornamental bulbs such as the lilies are allowed to grow, however, others that have not been identified are mowed down and as a result are unable to successfully photosynthesize. The repeated mowing of these contributing ornamental plants and the loss of their leaves will result in their inability to photosynthesize and

their inevitable loss. Mowing in the Luper Pioneer Cemetery should

**Luper Pioneer Cemetery**

be completed at a height of 6", or the maximum height of the mower blades, whichever comes first. Even if the bulbs are not allowed to flower, the preservation of their leaves insures their continued survival and their availability as resources for future analysis. Future analysis could provide further information on the establishment and development of the cemetery landscape. Ornamental plantings should not be relocated.

#### *Invasive Species and Assorted Landscape Maintenance*

The use of herbicides should be minimized as they have a negative affect on both native and ornamental plants and wildlife. The use of herbicides should be restricted in areas where ornamental plant species are known to be located. Overspray is a major threat to contributing ornamental landscape features that that has been observed in the Luper Cemetery during documentation. The occurrence of overspray will kill all plants including contributing ornamental bulbs and perennials. The loss of ornamental plants is irreversible and will have a major impact on the historic landscape integrity. Many non-native plant species have naturalized in the Luper Cemetery landscape and should be mowed down before being allowed to produce seed in the late spring rather than being sprayed with a herbicide.

Burn piles have been created in multiple locations throughout the Luper Pioneer Cemetery's historic core during the past 35 years. These burn piles have sterilized the ground and have killed any and all ornamental and other plant species in these locations due to the intense heat that was created. No burn piles should be created in the cemetery core. It is suggested that all debris be mulched or hauled off site.

### Documentation and Assessment

The extant burial markers, bases, footstones, associated concrete curbs and slabs, trees, ornamental plantings and other extant landscape features both contributing and non-contributing found at Luper Cemetery along with the cemetery setting are important in the



Documentation is important in determining changes that have occurred to the landscape over time. (Author, 2014)

retention of the cemetery's sense of place and identity. Cultural landscapes are dynamic as they are composed of both natural and cultural features that can change and evolve over both short and long periods of time. Complete documentation and assessment of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery landscape should occur at least once every five years. The

documentation and assessment will provide a set point in history to which future landscape evaluations can be compared to have a detailed understanding of changes that have occurred to the Luper Cemetery during the interim years. With the ever-present possibility of vandalism and other sources of damage or alteration, the documentation will provide a detailed primary source resource providing invaluable information about the cultural and natural landscape features.

### Conclusion

The preservation and documentation of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery strives to preserve the cemetery in a manner that will retain all contributing cultural and natural landscape features. Cultural landscapes are dynamic systems that inherently change and evolve

over time. The Luper Pioneer Cemetery Cultural Landscape Report should serve, as a technical document to guide Luper Cemetery Inc. and volunteers in maintaining a cohesive landscape preservation philosophy that will ensure the cemetery's long-term integrity and overall survival. Moving, replacing or altering any landscape features both natural and introduced has the very real possibility of heavily affecting the cemetery's overall effectiveness in providing a unadulterated window into the late nineteenth and early to mid twentieth century cultural views on death and memorialization in an Oregon pioneer cemetery landscape. The Luper Pioneer Cemetery is a primary source document that provides a view into the lives of those individuals and families who first settled the Willamette Valley more than 150 years ago.

Through the completion of the Luper Pioneer Cemetery it is the author's hope to have provided Luper Cemetery Inc. and volunteers with a deep understanding of the complex historic cemetery landscape they manage. The Cultural Landscape Report document should provide Luper Cemetery Inc. with a preservation philosophy for future landscape preservation and management initiatives. In completing the Cultural Landscape Report, the author compiled an inventory of all 133 burial markers and other contributing and non-contributing landscape features present in the cemetery landscape during the spring of 2014. The documentation attached to the report will add to the extensive existing Luper Cemetery documentation completed by current and past cemetery stewards. In time these documents will allow future cemetery stewards to have a window into the cemetery as it existed in 2014.

## Appendix - A

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## **Appendix - D**

### **Photo Documentation**

- A. Bibliography
- B. Cemetery Zoning Diagram
- C. Cemetery Plot Map
- D. Photo Documentation
- E. Cemetery Inventory Forms (Digital)

## **Appendix - E**

### **Cemetery Inventory (Digital)**

The following is an inventory of burial markers located in the Luper Cemetery as they appeared in the winter of 2013 and spring of 2014. Several cemetery inventories have been completed over the past seventy years. Early inventories were incomplete as they did not photograph the markers and in some cases children's markers were not surveyed. At other times the cemetery was so overgrown, that many markers were obscured. A strong need exists for regular documentation every five years to capture the burial markers and cemetery landscape over an extended period of time. The inventory is complete as of the spring of 2014. It is probable that burial markers and other landscape features will continue to be discovered following the completion of the inventory and report. These features should be documented upon their discovery, and should be subsequently documented in future site inventories.



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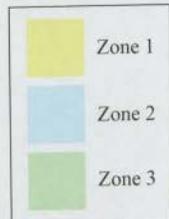
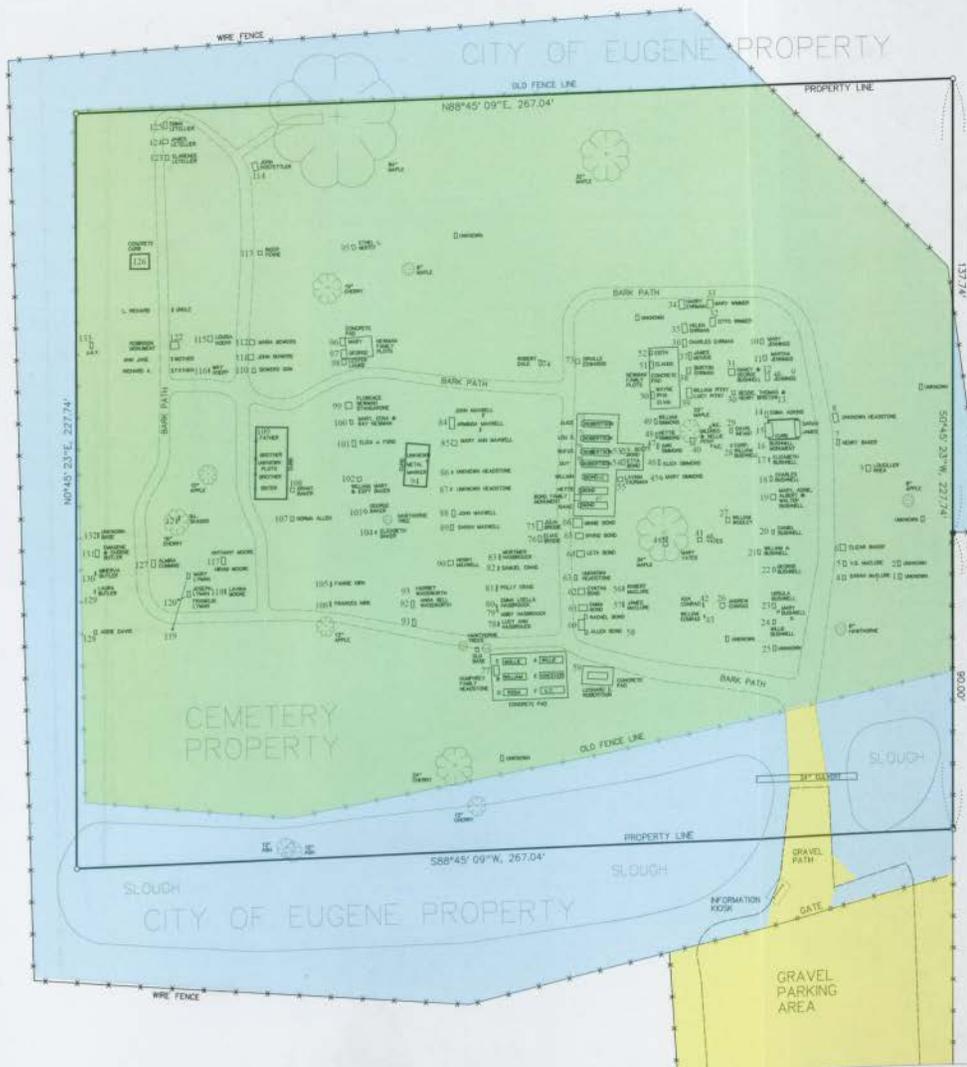
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CITY OF BEVEY

ION 34, T16S, R4W, W.M.  
Y, OREGON  
ER CEMETERY



**Roberts Surveying, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 7155  
Springfield, Oregon 97475  
Bus. (541) 345-1112

Landscape Treatment Zones  
Adapted from Roberts Surveying Inc.  
Luper Cemetery Survey 2012

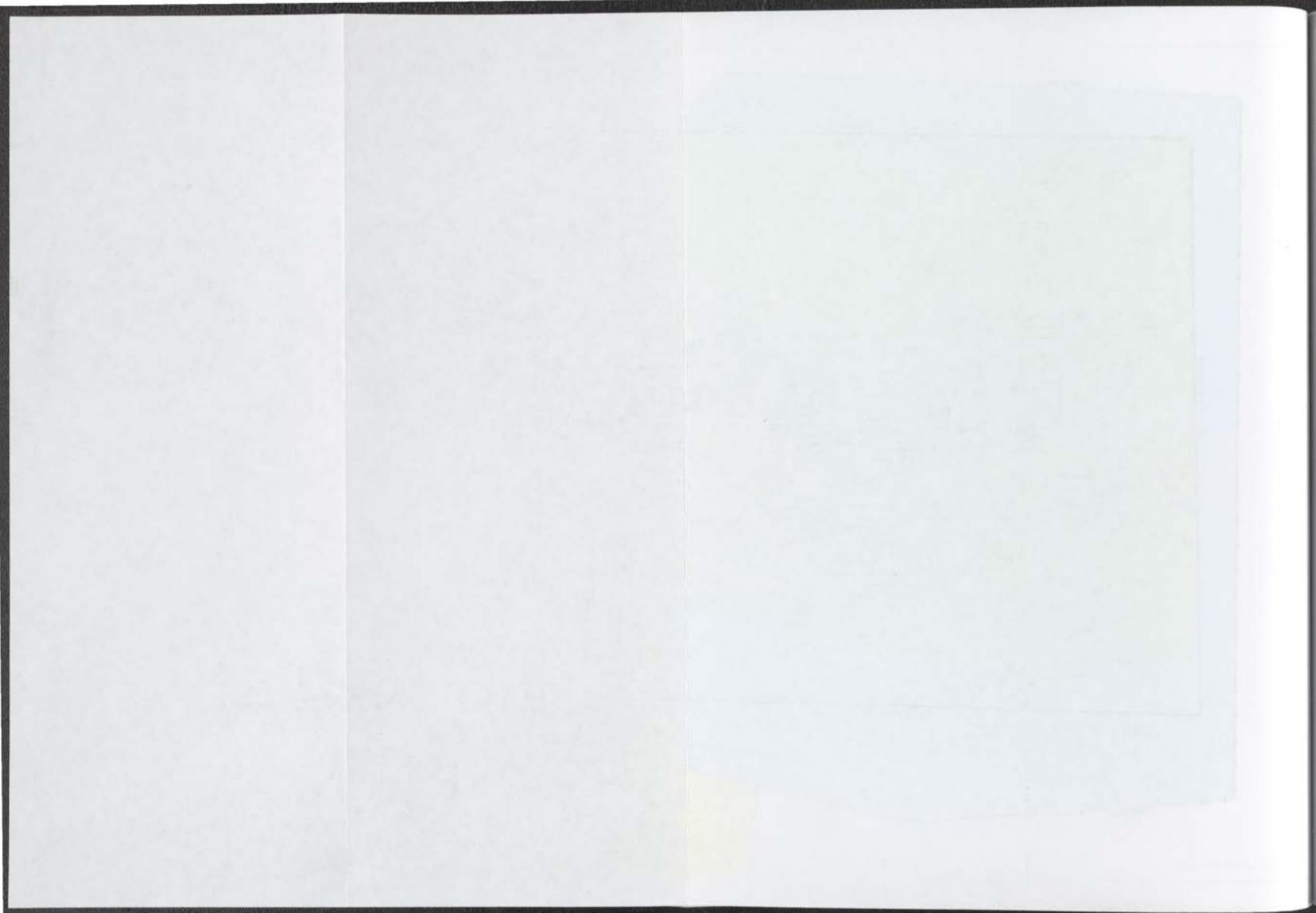


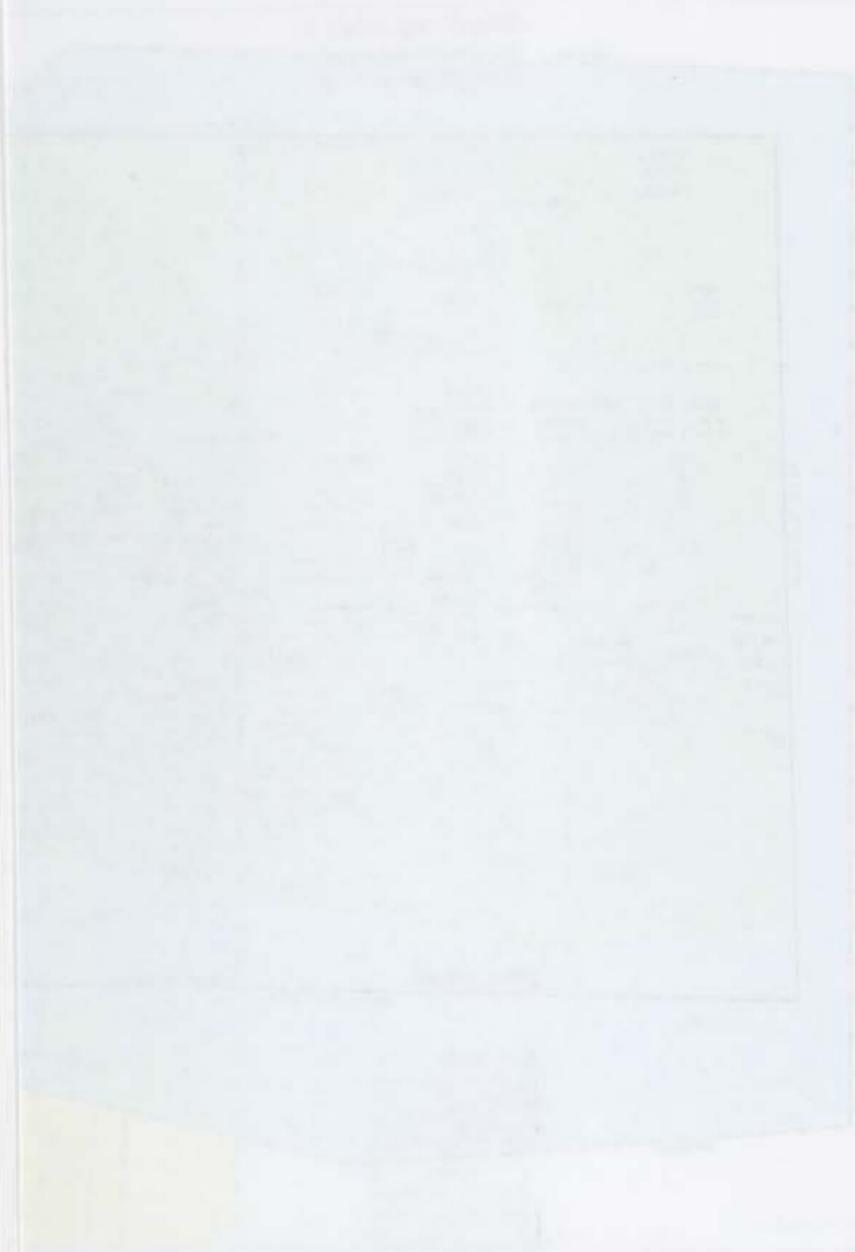
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D.L.C. #43



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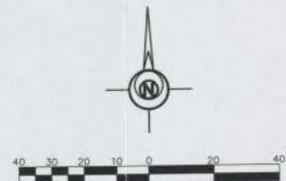
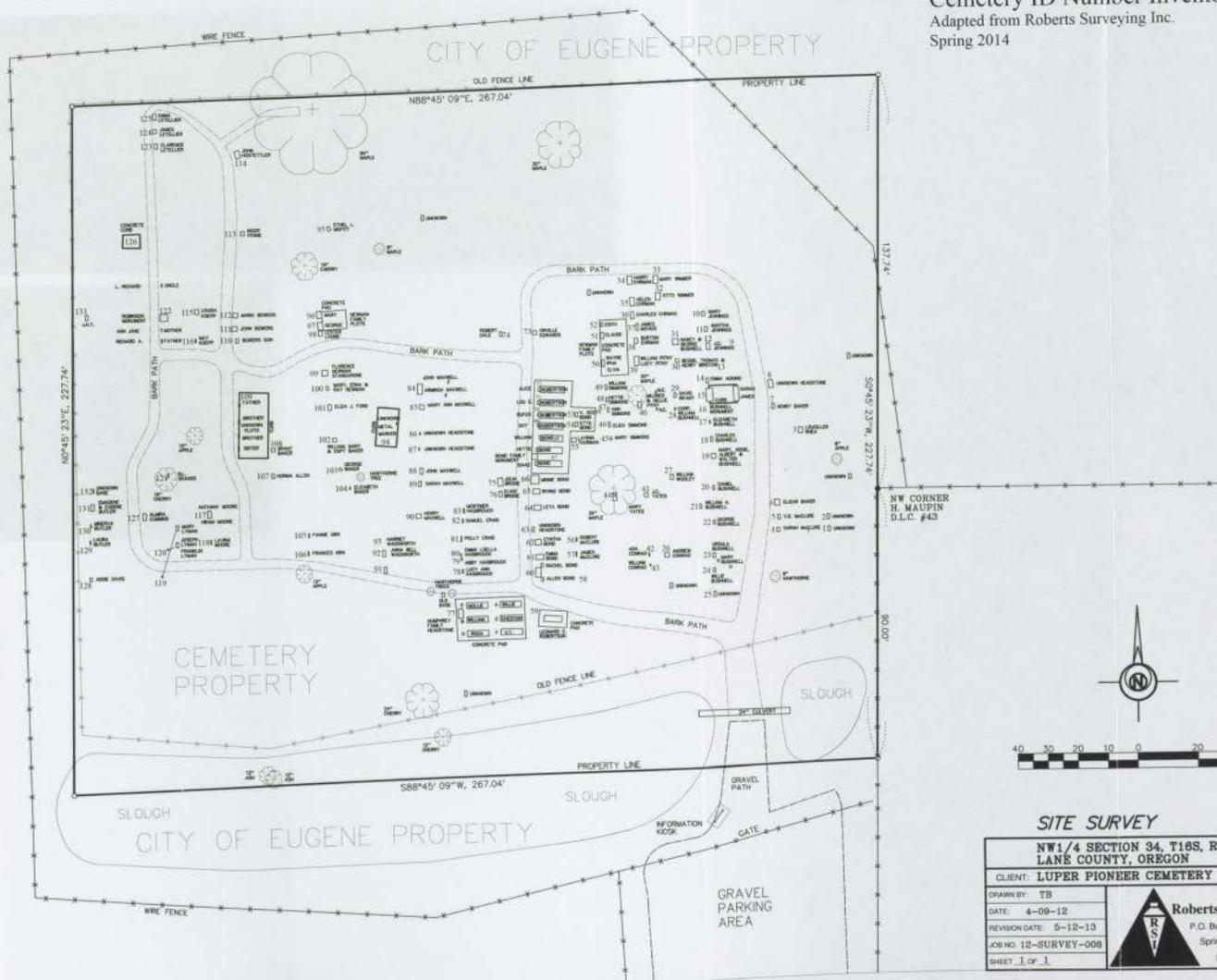
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DATE: 4-09-12	
REVISION DATE: 5-12-13	
JOB NO: 12-SURVEY-008	
SHEET 1 OF 1	







Cemetery ID Number Inventory Map  
Adapted from Roberts Surveying Inc.  
Spring 2014



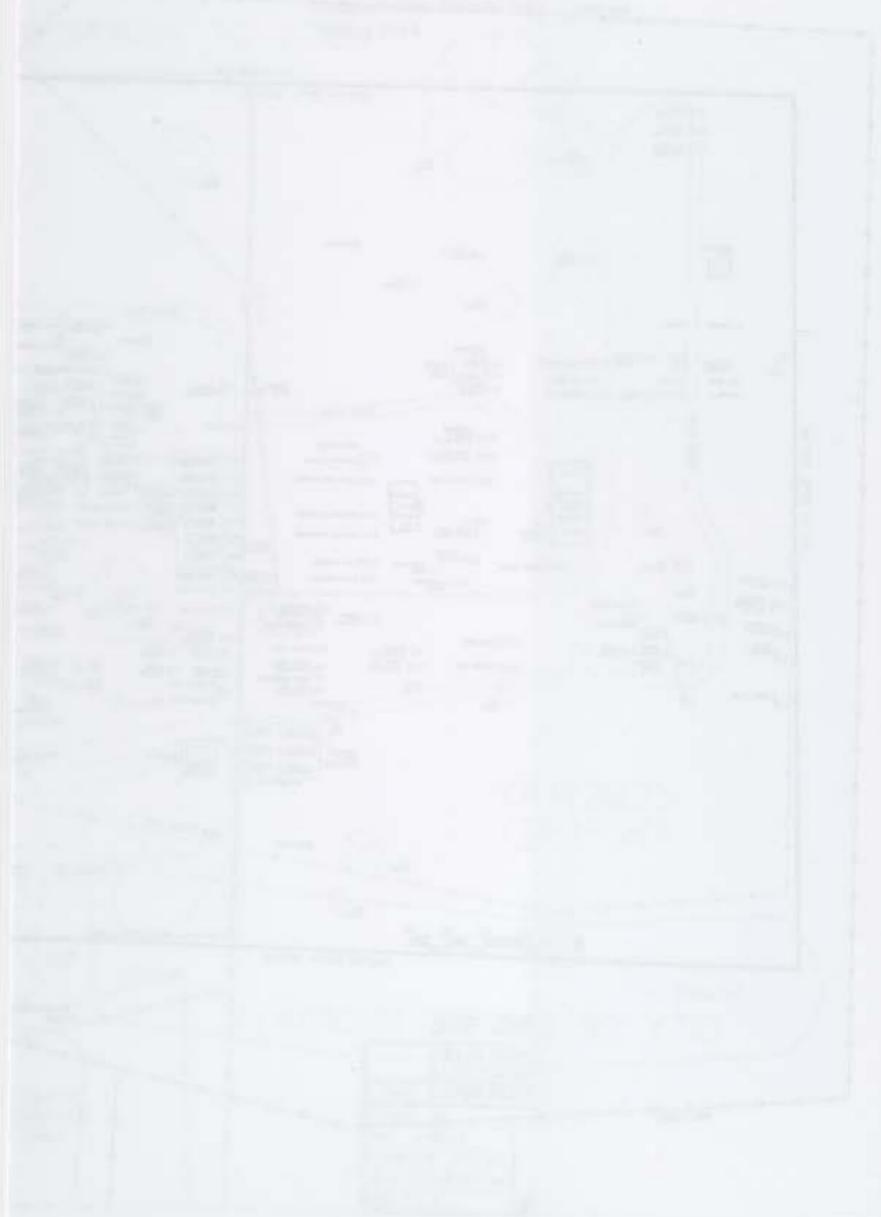
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DRAWN BY: TB	
DATE: 4-09-12	
REVISION DATE: 5-12-13	
JOB NO: 12-SURVEY-008	
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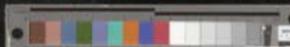






V.S. McClure

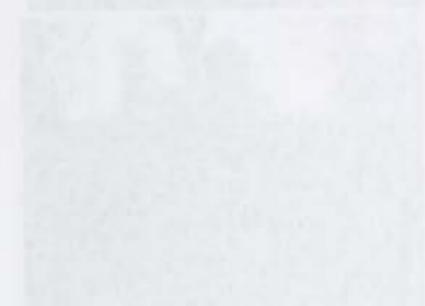






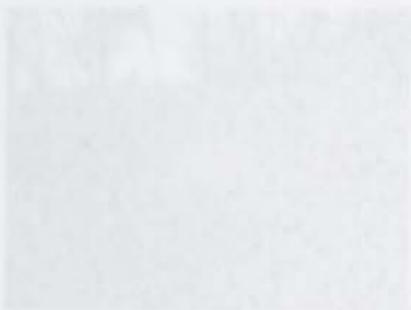


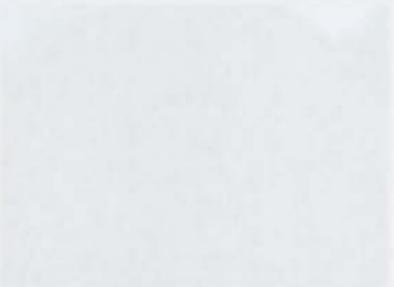


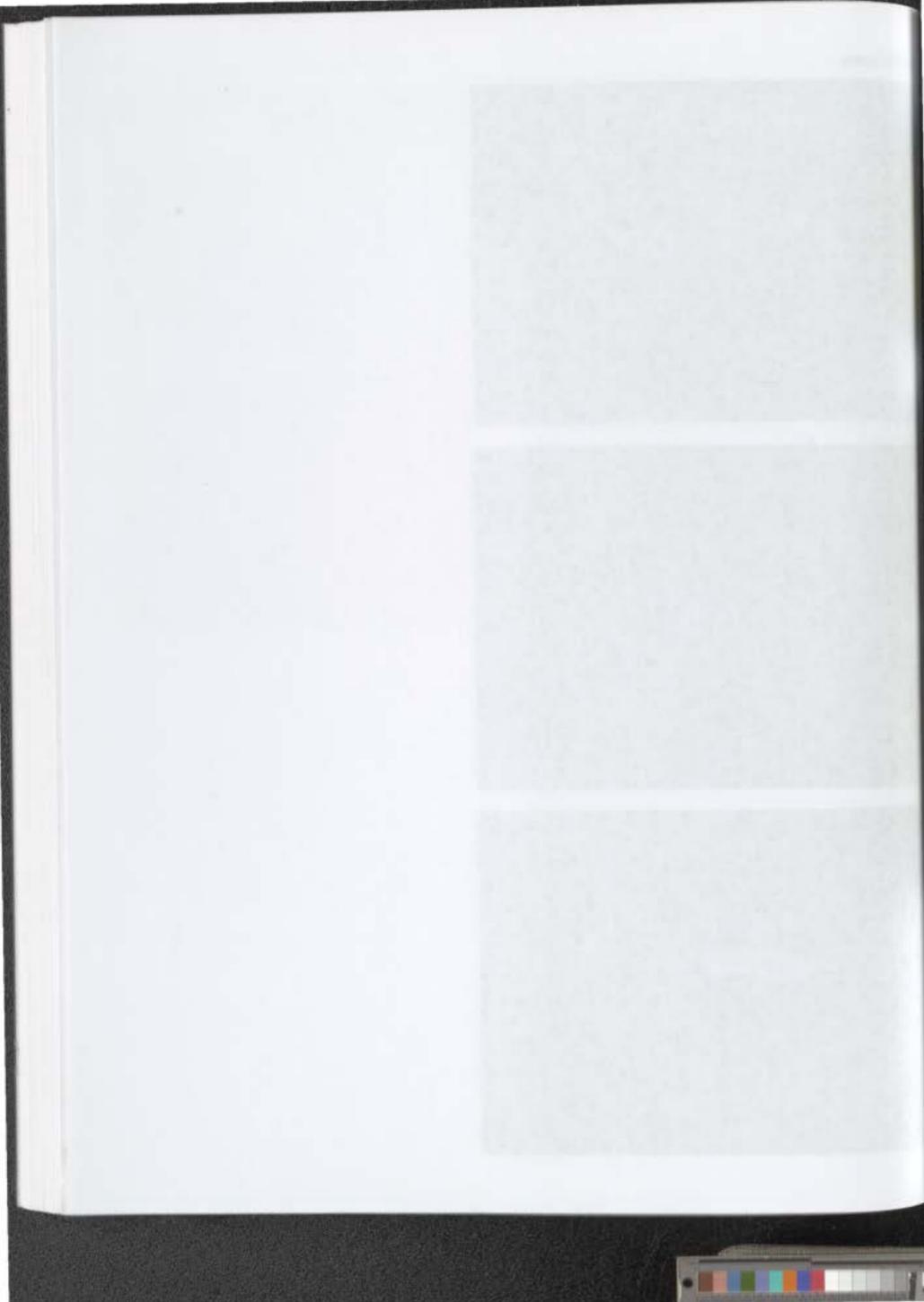


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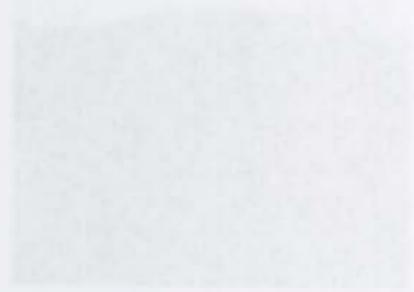












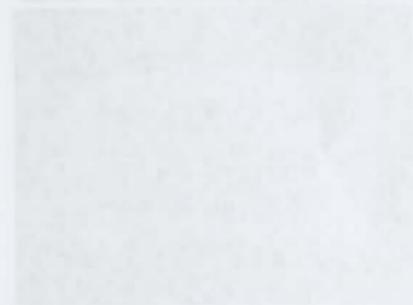
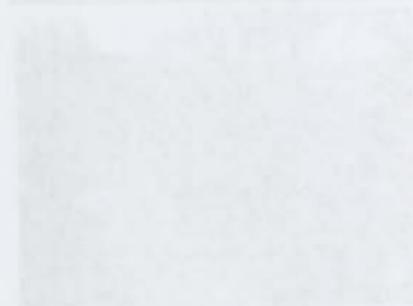




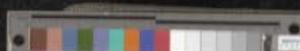










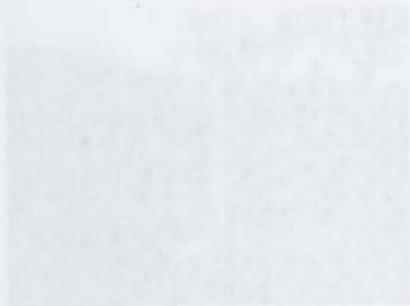








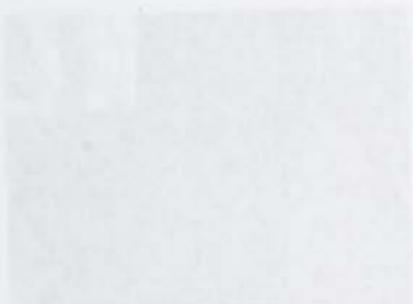
Beloved Son of  
My dear mother and father  
My mind is so full of you  
I wish I could see you  
I wish I could hear you  
I wish I could feel you  
I wish I could be with you









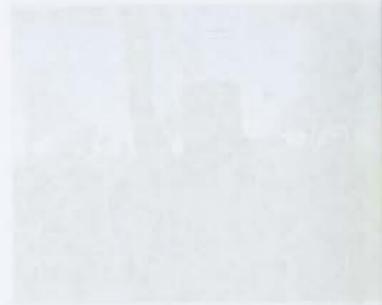
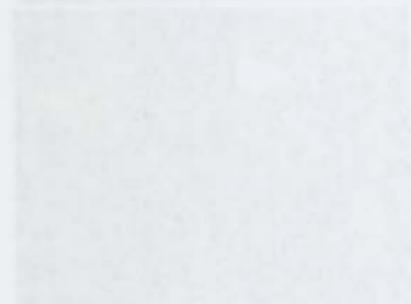






11. William Bushnell









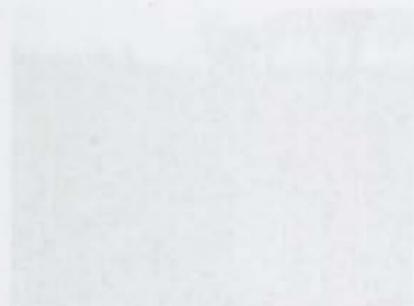


Suffer little children to come unto  
me and forbid them not for of such  
is the kingdom of Heaven.



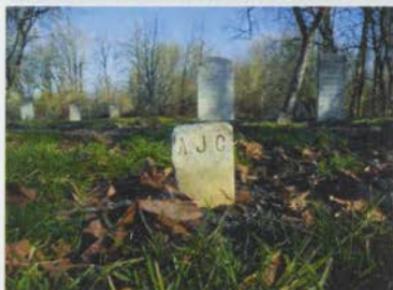






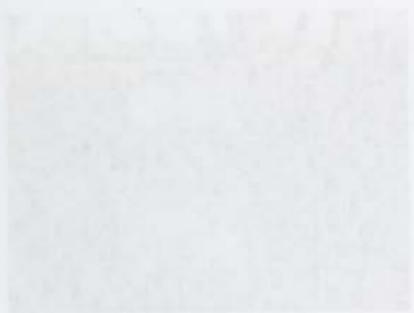










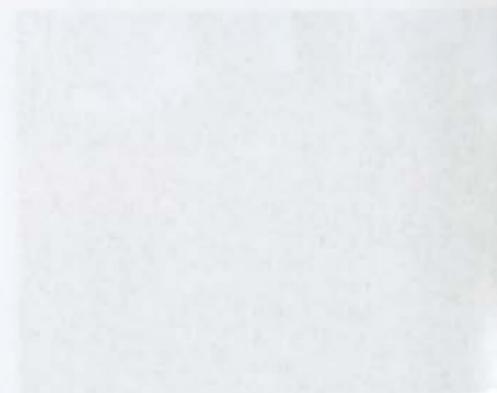
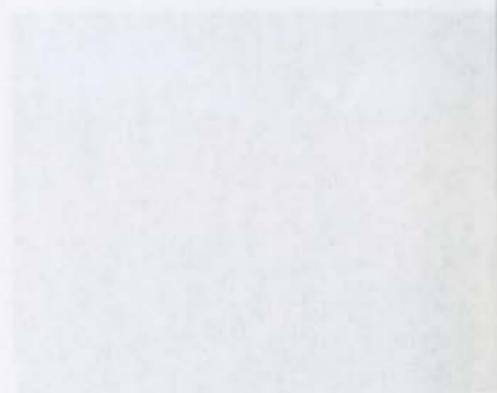




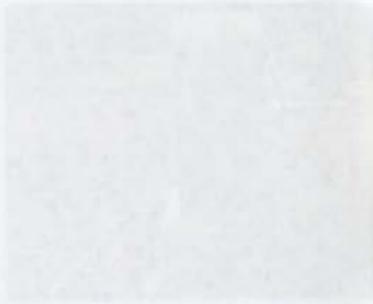
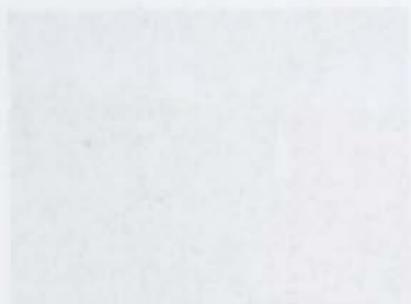


9. Infant Daughter



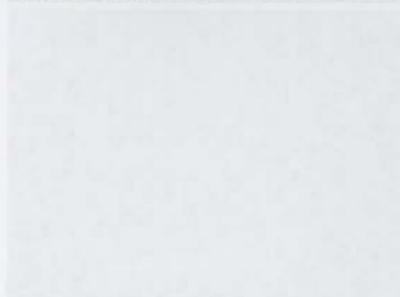
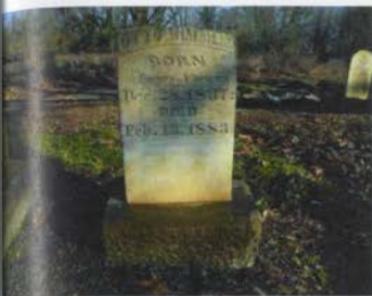


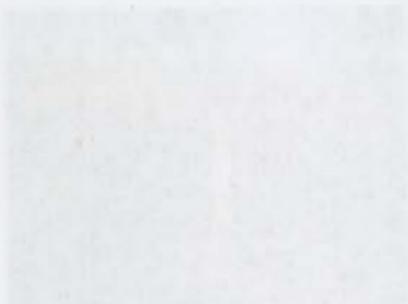








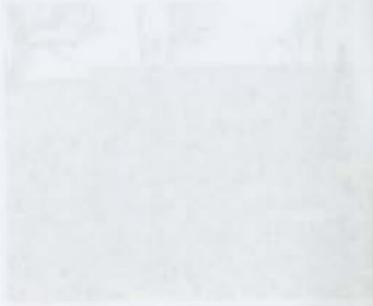








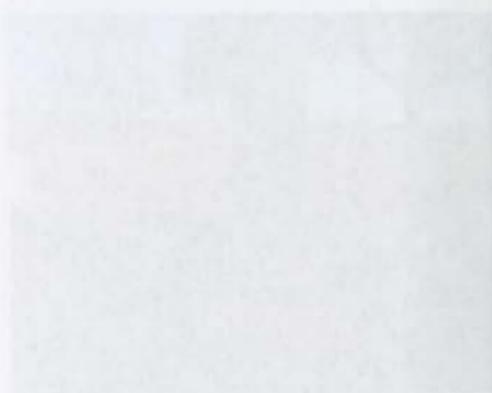


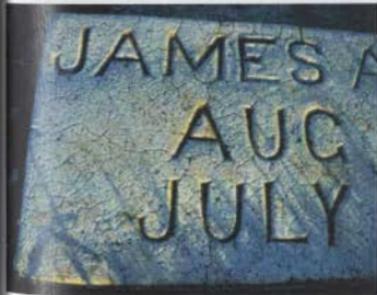


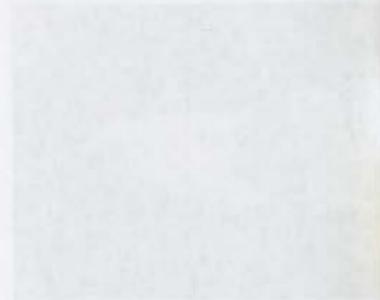


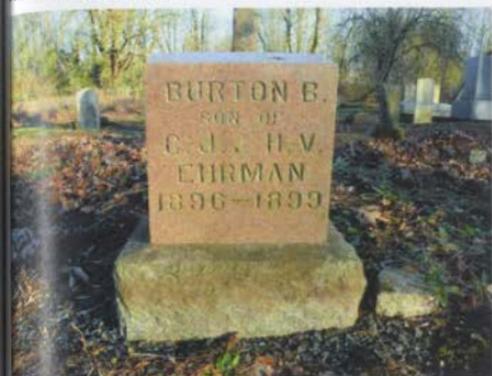














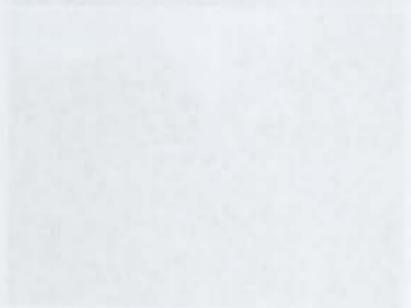
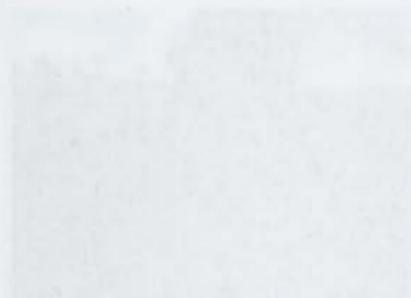
William and Lucy Pitney



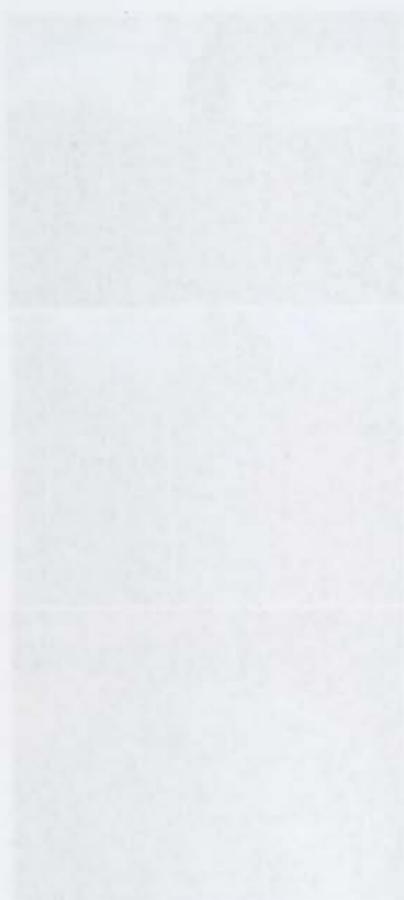


40. Nellie and Mildred Pitney

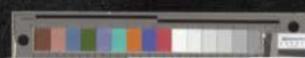
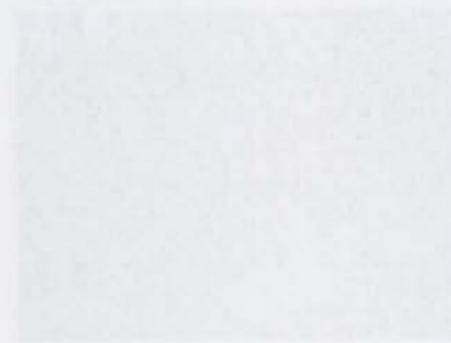


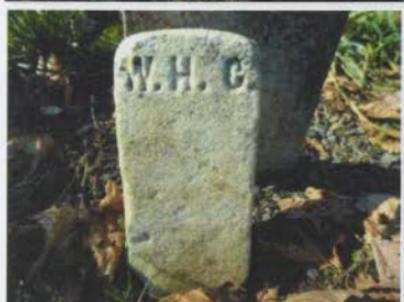


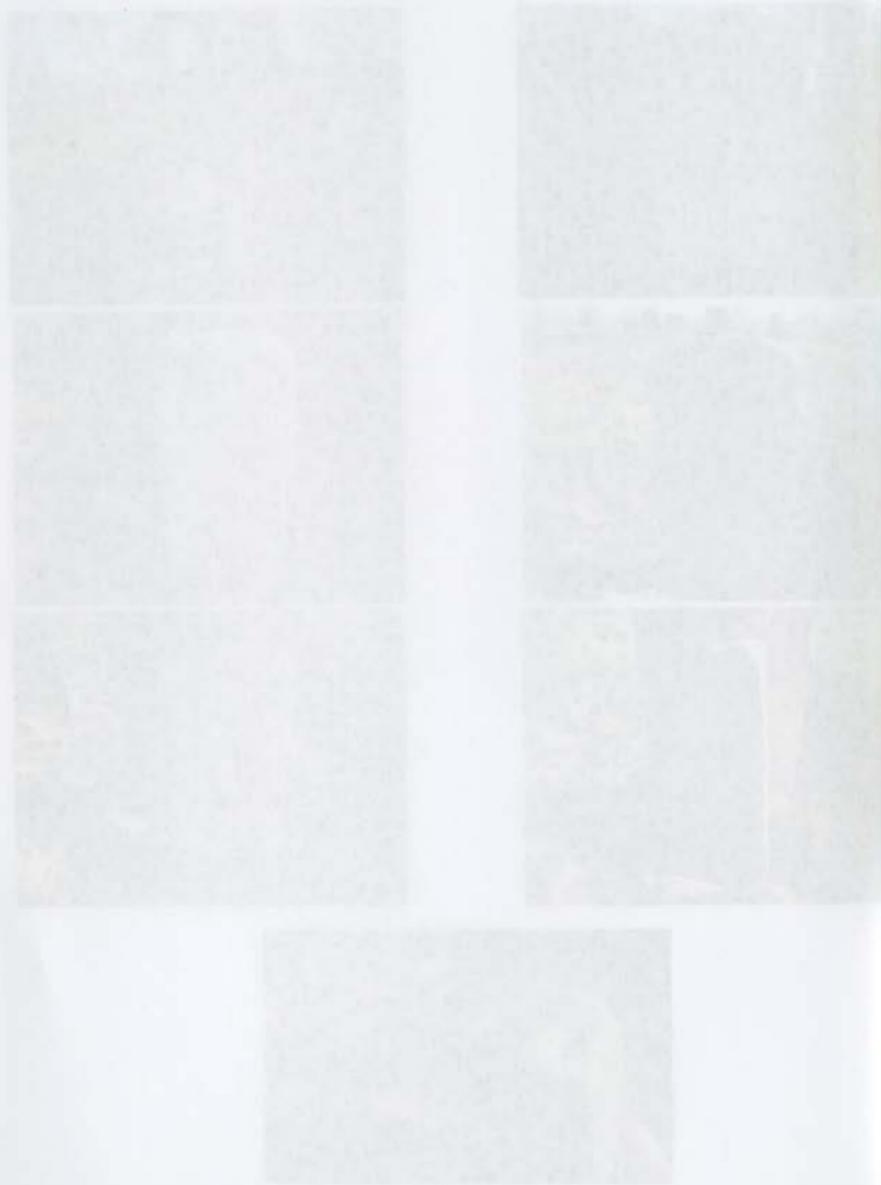


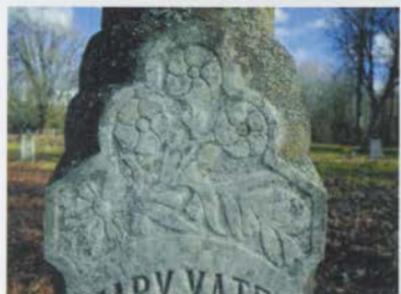


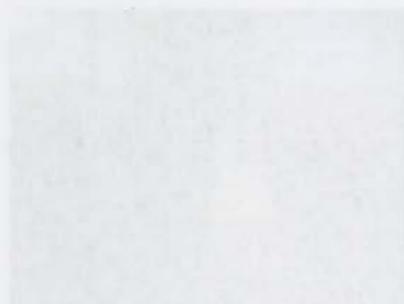


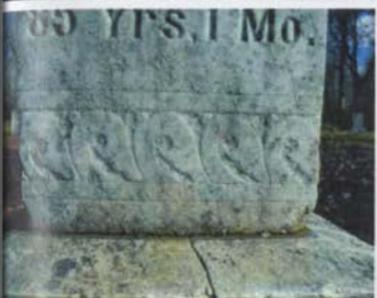
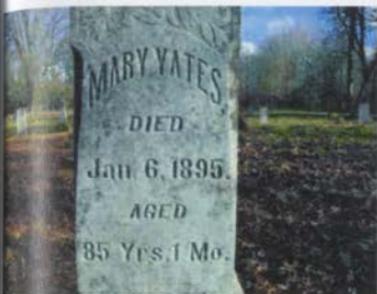












1. The first part of the report  
 deals with the general  
 conditions of the country  
 and the progress of the  
 work during the year.

2. The second part of the report  
 deals with the results of the  
 work during the year.

3. The third part of the report  
 deals with the financial  
 statement of the year.

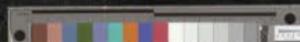
4. The fourth part of the report  
 deals with the progress of the  
 work during the year.

5. The fifth part of the report  
 deals with the results of the  
 work during the year.

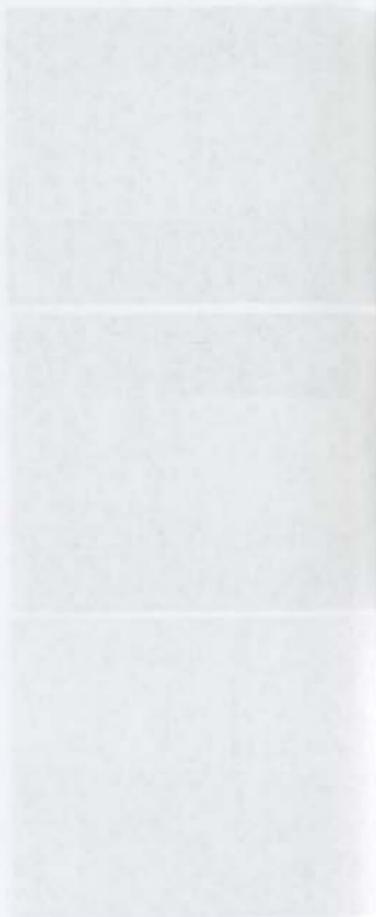
6. The sixth part of the report  
 deals with the financial  
 statement of the year.













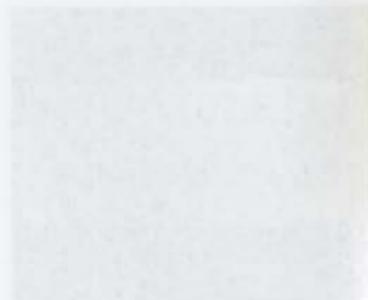


48. Hettie Simmons



49. William Simmons

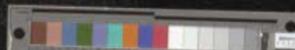


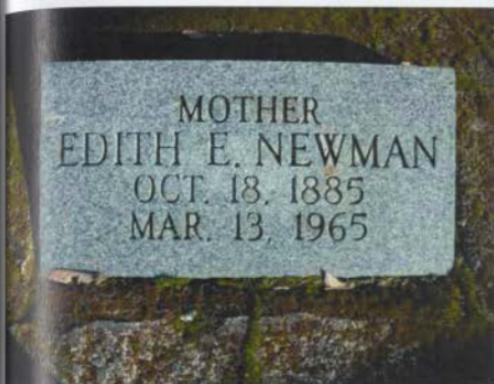




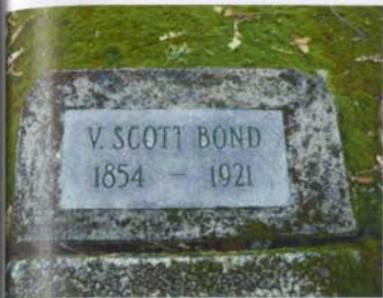






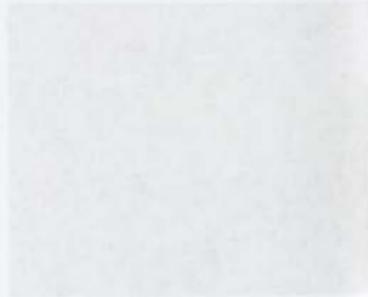




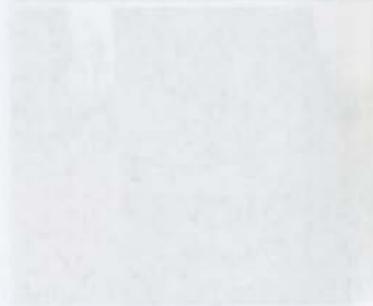








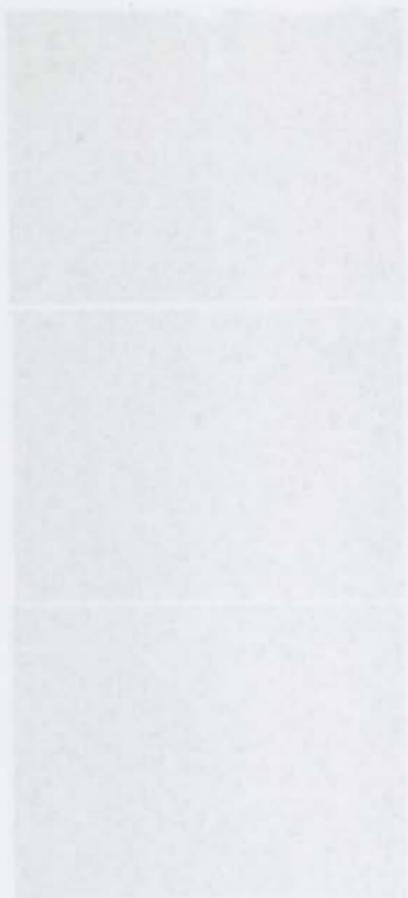












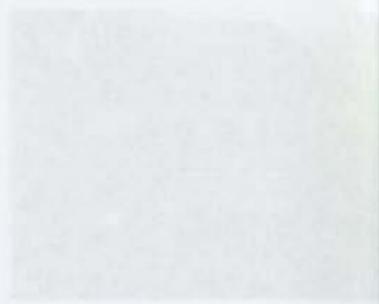




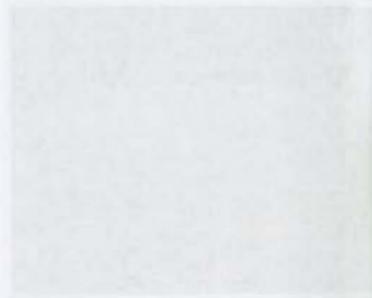
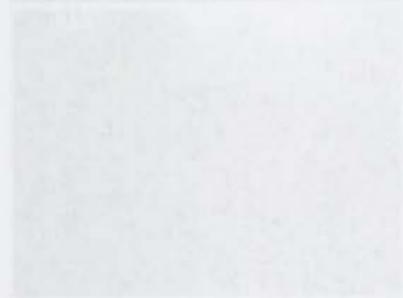




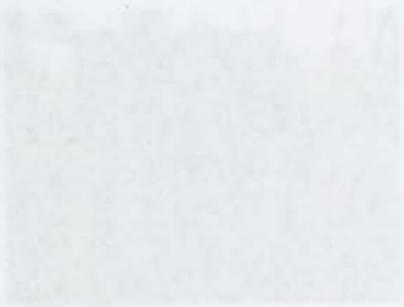




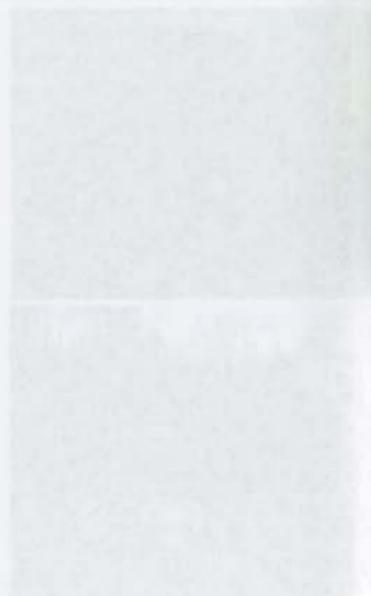










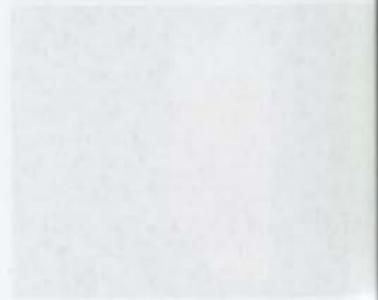


63. Unknown Base

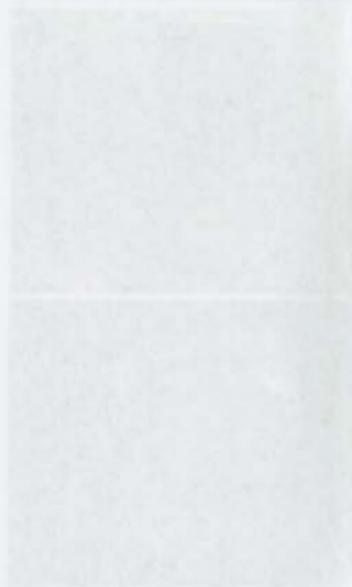






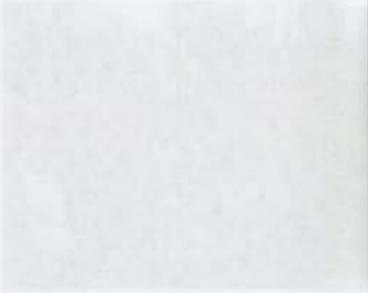






66. Minnie Bond



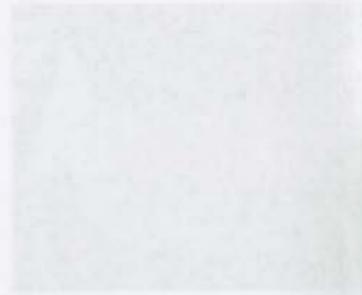


67. Bond Family











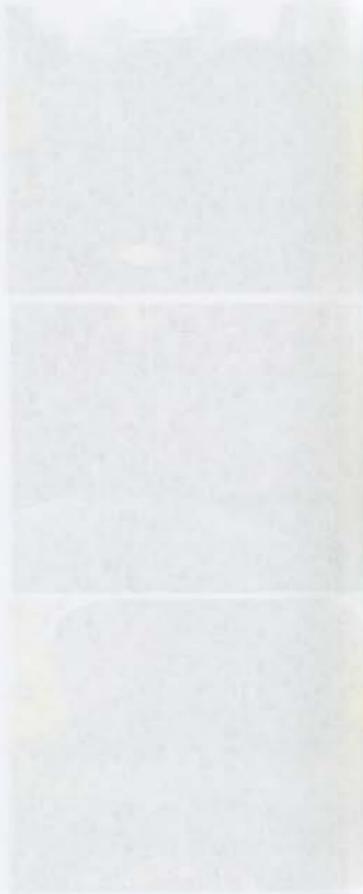
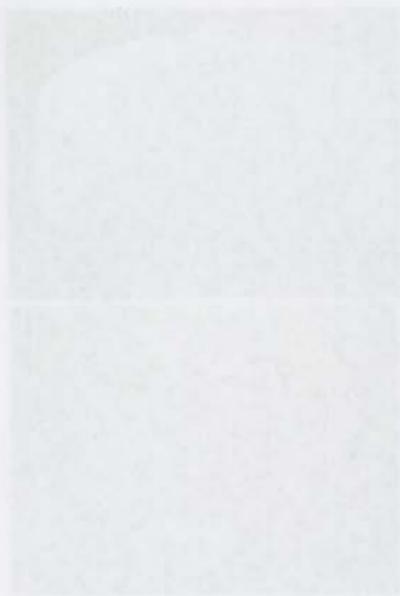


99. Guy Robertson



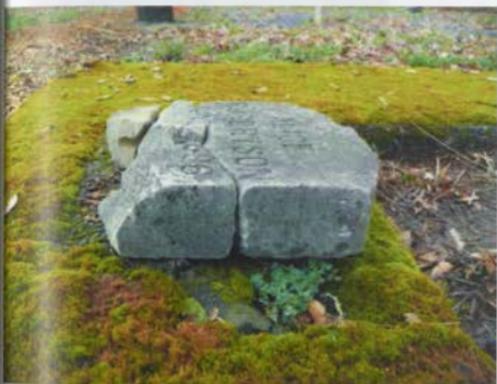












1. The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the war. It is a very interesting and detailed account of the events of the year.

2. The second part of the report deals with the military operations of the year. It is a very detailed account of the campaigns and battles of the year.

3. The third part of the report deals with the political situation of the country and the progress of the war. It is a very interesting and detailed account of the events of the year.

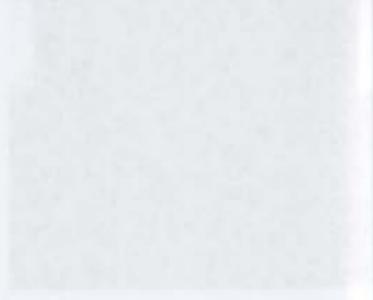
4. The fourth part of the report deals with the economic situation of the country and the progress of the war. It is a very interesting and detailed account of the events of the year.



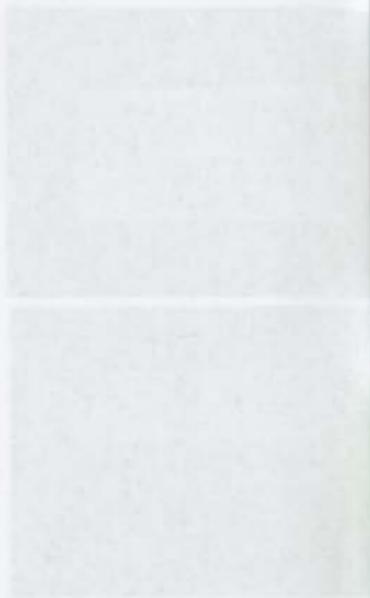
















Humphrey Family







MOTHER

A rectangular, weathered gravestone with the name "MOTHER" engraved in capital letters. The stone is set in a dark, possibly mossy ground.

FATHER

A rectangular, weathered gravestone with the name "FATHER" engraved in capital letters. The stone is set in a dark, possibly mossy ground.

ROSA

A rectangular, weathered gravestone with the name "ROSA" engraved in capital letters. The stone is set in a dark, possibly mossy ground.

V.T

A rectangular, weathered gravestone with the initials "V.T" engraved in capital letters. The stone is set in a dark, possibly mossy ground.

CHESTER

A rectangular, weathered gravestone with the name "CHESTER" engraved in capital letters. The stone is set in a dark, possibly mossy ground.

WILLIE

A rectangular, weathered gravestone with the name "WILLIE" engraved in capital letters. The stone is set in a dark, possibly mossy ground.

1875  
1876

1877  
1878

1879  
1880

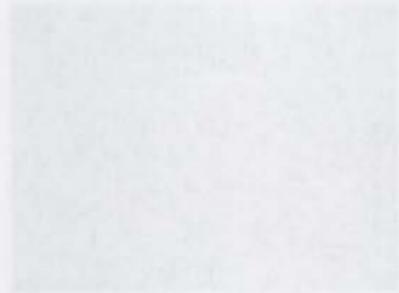
1881  
1882

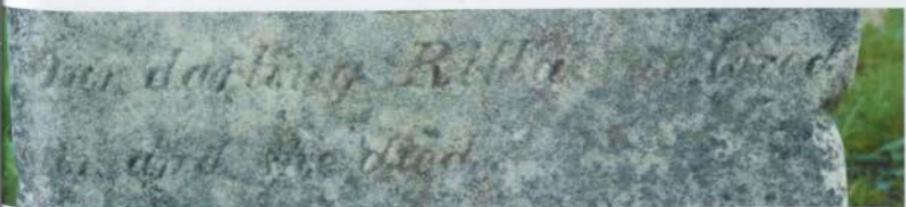
1883  
1884

1885  
1886











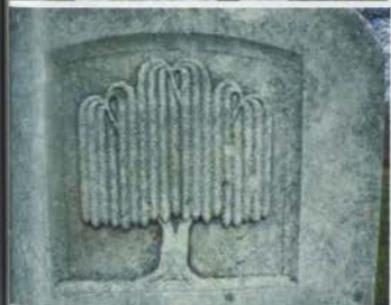


Our household here give Angel less  
and Heaven one Angel more.





81. Polly Craig



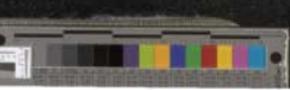


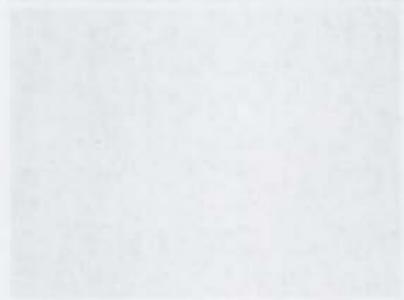


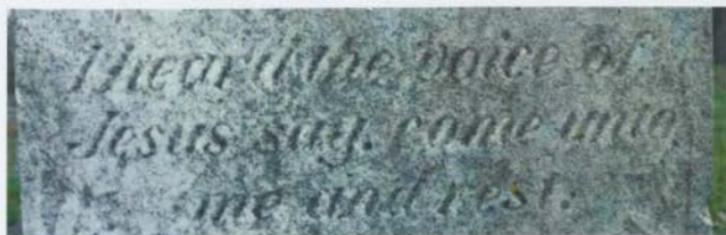


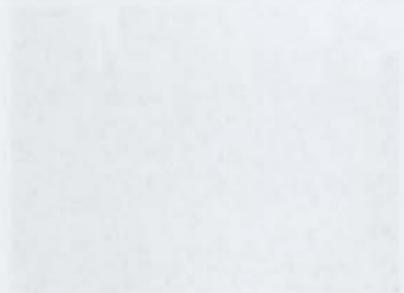
















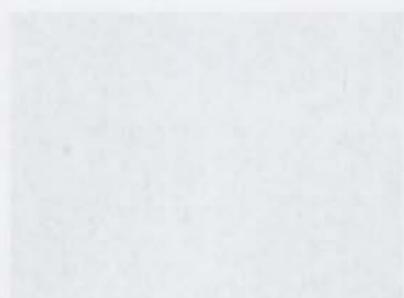


















1900

1900

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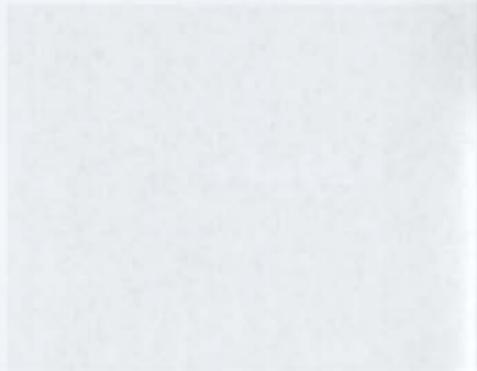
1900

1900

1900

1900

1900





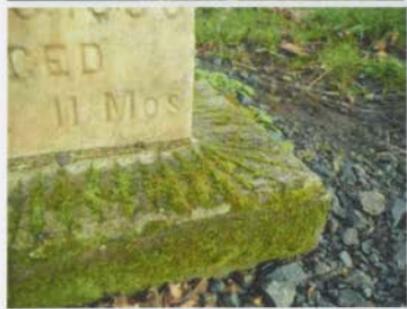








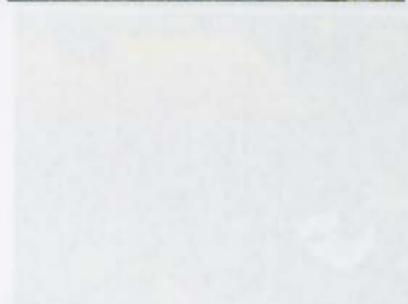






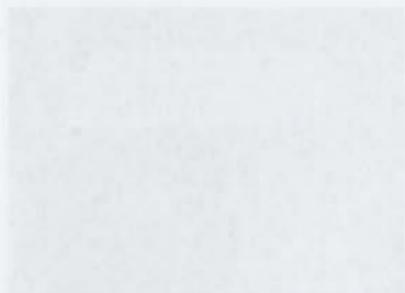








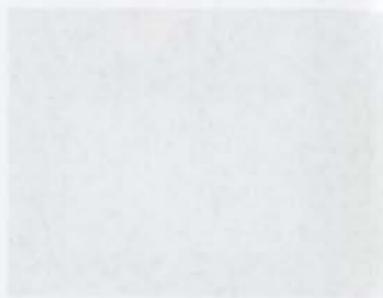
















102. William, Mary, & Espy Baker















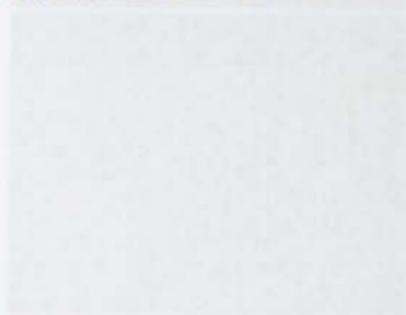




















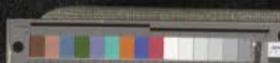






11. John Bowers









113. Inger Fenne









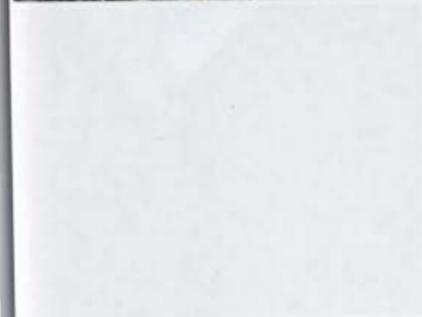
14. John Hostettler

































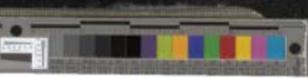
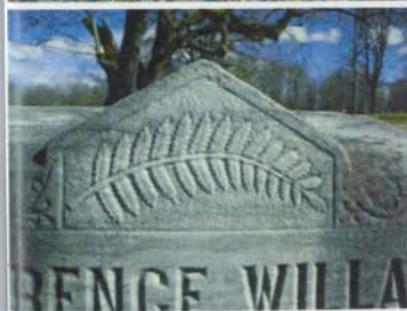
122. Robinson Family Plot













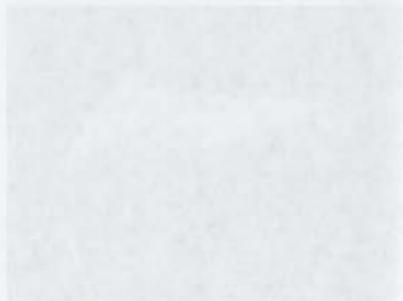






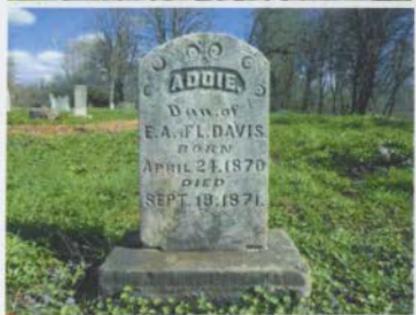
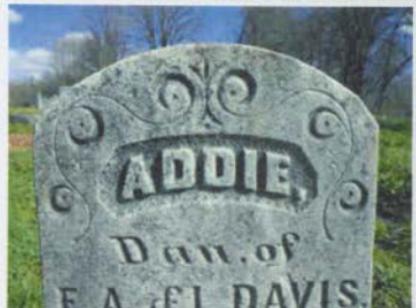


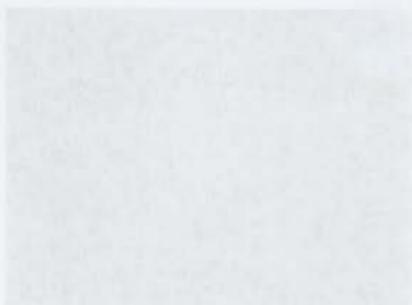
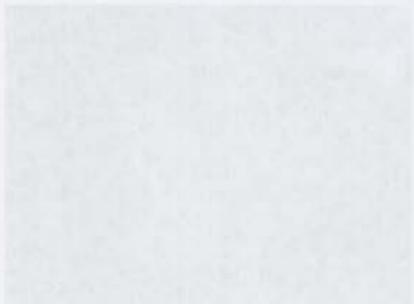








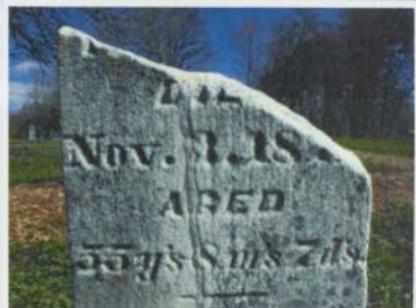




129. Laura Butler









131. Emogene & Eugene Butler









