

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

|                   |
|-------------------|
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| received          |
| date entered      |

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Elmwood Cemetery

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 4900 Truman Road \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Kansas City \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district

state Missouri code 29 county Jackson code 095

**3. Classification**

|   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Category</b>                                 | <b>Ownership</b>                            | <b>Status</b>                                       | <b>Present Use</b>                     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied        | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture   | <input type="checkbox"/> museum            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied                 | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial    | <input type="checkbox"/> park              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both               | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress           | <input type="checkbox"/> educational   | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site        | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                   | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> object      | <input type="checkbox"/> in process         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> government    | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific        |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered   | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted          | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation    |
|   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A     | <input type="checkbox"/> no                         | <input type="checkbox"/> military      | <input type="checkbox"/> other:            |

**4. Owner of Property**

name Elmwood Cemetery

street & number 4900 Truman Road

city, town Kansas City \_\_\_ vicinity of state Missouri

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds

street & number Jackson County Courthouse

city, town Independence state Missouri

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Kansas City: A Place  
in Time (Guide Book)

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1977 \_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Landmarks Commission of Kansas City, Missouri

city, town City Hall, 414 E. 12th Street  
Kansas City state Missouri 64106

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2. Kansas City (Guide Book)  
1979

Kansas City Chapter, American Institute of Architects  
20 West Ninth Street  
Kansas City

local

Missouri

## 7. Description

|  |                                       |   |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Condition                                |                                       | Check one                                     | Check one   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input type="checkbox"/> altered              | <input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |   |   |

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Elmwood Cemetery consists of approximately 43 acres of land bounded by Truman Road (East 15th Street) on the south, East 12th Street on the north, and Van Brunt Boulevard on the east. The north-south dimensions are approximately 1320 feet. Commercial property abuts the cemetery on the west, while residences are across Van Brunt Blvd. to the east. The east-west dimensions are approximately 1420 feet, with commercial property facing the cemetery grounds on both the north and south.

Elmwood Cemetery was named for the numerous elms that are a part of its landscape. Some of the streets through the cemetery are also named for the indigenous trees lining their routes. The cemetery has continued to be noted for the variety of trees on its grounds that are native to the Kansas City area. The ground was not cleared before the cemetery was established, so many of the trees are quite old. In addition, they have been supplemented by "every shrub that can be grown in this climate".<sup>1</sup> While the original (1872) plans for the cemetery called for several lakes and ponds, and the 1891 Atlas of Kansas City indicates three bodies of water within the property, the cemetery currently contains no lakes, ponds or streams. A creek that once ran through the site has been channeled through a culvert.<sup>2</sup> The cemetery lots measure 20 feet by 20 feet, although some half-lots have been sold. Curving roads wind through the hills and dales of the grounds.

Several improvements have been made to the cemetery grounds:

- (1) Public vault and crematorium  
c. 1897  
architect: George Kessler (attrib.)

Recessed into the base of a hill, near the center of the cemetery, are two small stone structures which are now almost obscured by vegetation. Both structures feature arched door openings. The larger structure, on the east, was probably the public vault constructed as part of the 1897 cemetery improvements. The interior consists of a number of niches lined with marble. This building is now used for equipment storage. The smaller stone structure, on the west, is speculated to have been a crematorium although no documentation has been uncovered concerning the building.<sup>3</sup>

- (2) Entrance Gate and Fence

Around 1900 a wrought iron gate was erected at the cemetery entrance on Truman Road (East 15th Street) and wrought iron fences surrounded the perimeter of the property. The entrance gate is characterized by two cylindrical coursed stone piers which serve as the anchor for twin wrought iron gates. The piers terminate in a semi-spherical shape ringed at the base with a foliate relief extending around the perimeter. The gates themselves are highly ornate with repeating spiral and circular shapes within a grid matrix. In 1917 the fences were replaced on the east, west, and north boundaries with a reinforced concrete wall. Other original stone pylons still stand at the southwest and northeast corners of the grounds and at an unused entrance on the north side of the cemetery.<sup>4</sup>

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(3) Kirkland B. Armour Chapel  
1904

architect: B. H. Marshall (Chicago); George Mathews  
Addition: 1917; architect: Wight and Wight

This gothic-inspired chapel is constructed of native stone. The primary (south) facade contains an entrance featuring a compound Tudor arch. The jambs of the doorway contain carved relief panels of foliate ornament. The wood entrance door contains two leaves that are also detailed with molding featuring Gothic pointed arches. The one bay elevation contains a tower that terminates in crenellation. Tiered buttresses flank the main tower through to the second story.

Above the main door is a recessed niche that terminates in a lancet arch. A projecting string course defines the separation of the bell tower from the lower stories. Recessed into the tower is another aperture that is arched and louvered. A conical roof surmounts the bell tower.

The main slope of the roof is gabled and covered with asphalt shingles. Buttresses are applied to the east and west walls.

A columbarium/crematorium addition projects as a raised basement with a flat roof from the north wall of the chapel. It is constructed of stone which is identical to the material of the chapel. An entrance to the addition projects from the northeast corner of the chapel, consisting of an arched door set within a pointed arch stone surround.

(4) Cemetery Office  
1925

architect: Wight and Wight  
builder: Swenson Construction Co.

The Elmwood Cemetery Office is rectangular in plan. The one-story building has a raised basement level and is constructed of coursed random ashlar stone. The main facade, 43 feet in length, faces west and is three bays in elevation. The central entrance, consisting of a double leaf, one panel door with multipaned transom, is approached by a flight of stone steps flanked by stairrails. Two, six-over-six, double hung sash windows are placed equidistant from the entrance, emphasizing the perfect symmetry of the building. Smooth stone caps the stairrail and parapet wall, which peaks over the center bay, and extends slightly beyond the roof line at the corners. A flat arched lintel composed of stone voussoirs is placed above the portal and windows. Smooth stone lugsills are placed below the side bay windows.

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The east facade is characterized by a tripartite center window. Four basement windows rise above ground level. A doorway is placed at the northeast corner of the building. Flat arched stone lintels are placed above the windows and doorway, and smooth stone forms the lugsills of the basement and first-story windows.

The north and south facades contain three rectangular, four-over-four, double-hung sash windows with smooth stone lugsills and flat arched lintels. Two square windows pierce the building at the basement level.

Tomb Markers, Monuments and Vaults

Elmwood Cemetery has many outstanding tomb markers, monuments, and vaults that serve as excellent examples of Victorian funerary art. The Elmwood Cemetery Society made provisions that no monument would be erected in the cemetery without the plans first being approved by the Board of Directors. They also stipulated that only one monument would be allowed in each lot.

The Waldo vault, c. 1892, typifies the grand funerary monuments that were erected in the cemetery. Many of the vaults in Elmwood have utilized the existing hilly topography by building the structures into the rise of a hill. The Waldo vault demonstrates a particularly successful scheme, as the curvilinear enframing walls descend from the rise of the hill to meet similarly curved walls which rise from the base of the hill. The resultant enframing, with its serpentine lines, add remarkable visual interest. The access to the vault itself is through a central door that is enframed by pilasters and that carries a flat pediment. A pellet molding extends around the perimeter of the doorway. Wrought iron decorative grills cover the doorway. Pilasters terminating in Corinthian capitals are placed at each side. A decorative, classically inspired relief runs vertically along the pilaster. An overhanging bracketed cornice extends midway along the parapet wall. The name "Waldo" in raised relief appears just below it.

An unusual tomb marker of c. 1889 marks the Mary Flagg grave. It represents a young girl, who presumably portrays the child buried here. The tomb marker reflects Victorian attitudes towards death and a remarkable predilection towards "personalizing" memorials. The sculpture itself is finely executed, especially in the rendering of the child's features. There is a spontaneity in the depiction, as the contrapposto attitude of the figure seems almost to indicate that she is in the process of stepping off the pedestal.

The Hattie Evans Bales Monument of c. 1887 is replete with symbolism appropriate for a person dying at a young age (Mrs. Bales was 44 at the time of her death). A stone base supports a lavish grouping of images carved in stone: a simulated

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brick wall that is crumbling; a broken tree, torn from its roots and set in front of a pointed arched opening; and an hour-glass with the sands of time running out.

While many grave markers incorporate religious signs and symbols in their design, few have used a single motif as successfully as the Hearne family monument of c. 1907. Here, a Latin cross has been intricately carved with elaborate strapwork, with the depth of carving varied to create subtle gradations of blacks and grays. The monument is set on a square, stepped granite base.

Condition

The structural portions of the cemetery (chapel, office, and gateway) are in good condition. The majority of the tomb markers are in good condition. Efforts at maintaining the grounds have increased recently.

Site

The cemetery is enclosed and defined by a reinforced concrete wall on the north, east and west sides while an iron fence runs across the south edge of the property. Residential structures are east of the cemetery, across Van Brunt Avenue. Commercial property faces the cemetery on both the north and south, and adjoins the cemetery on the west.

FOOTNOTES

1. "Memorial Day Calls Attention to Monuments of City's Famous Men", Kansas City Journal Post, 24 May 1925, p. 6, Sec. B.
2. Atlas of Kansas City, Missouri, 3rd ed., (Philadelphia, Pa.: G. M. Hopkins, 1891), plate 38.
3. Interview with Helen Pangburn, former manager of Elmwood Cemetery, 29 September 1982.
4. "Improvements Under Way at Elmwood Cemetery", Kansas City Star, 2 April 1917, p. 13.

# 8. Significance

| Period  | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below    |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric          | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric  | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/> law                               | <input type="checkbox"/> science                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> economics              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sculpture    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military                          | <input type="checkbox"/> social/<br>humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy                        | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government               | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)         |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |  |  |

**Specific dates**    founded 1872                      **Builder/Architect**    George Kessler, Landscape Architect

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Elmwood Cemetery, one of Kansas City's oldest and most beautiful burial grounds, possesses both historical and architectural significance. Founded in 1872, it typifies a 19th century "rural cemetery". The landscape design was prepared by George Kessler, one of the country's foremost landscape architects. Many of Kansas City's most prominent early citizens are interred in Elmwood, and their gravesites are distinguished by architecturally significant tomb markers, monuments, and vaults. The Armour Chapel and the cemetery office provide additional exemplary examples of cemetery architecture. A portion of the cemetery contains the earliest existing Jewish cemetery in Kansas City. The innovative financial plan developed for the perpetual maintenance of the cemetery adds to its historical import.

Historical Data

Prior to the 19th century in America, the most common place for the burial of the dead had been in church yards, within churches, or in the middle of towns. In New England, the town commons were frequently employed as the site for a graveyard. During the 1800's changes began to take place in funeral customs, primarily because of pressing social reasons, but also because of the new attitudes that were developing concerning death. A growing awareness of public health hazards created a desire to move all cemeteries away from the center of town. Some of the old graveyards were becoming increasingly crowded, and as a result, were sometimes offensive and occasionally a public health hazard. The closing of these older, inner-city burial grounds undoubtedly improved the living conditions within the cities, moving death away from the vital centers of urban life.<sup>1</sup>

The rural cemetery, located outside of the city, developed as a result of these changes and became a place for the dead to rest and survivors to visit in tranquility. Careful planning went into selecting the site for the rural cemetery, and they were designed as landscaped areas of peaceful beauty, with park-like settings creating vistas of unspoiled hills and valleys, lakes and ponds, both secluded and picturesque. Rural cemeteries were places "...for the deceased to be remembered and beauty beheld, for death was perceived as an exalted state. Under the sway of nineteenth-century romanticism, what people could not avoid, they made beautiful."<sup>2</sup> Because the cemeteries were deliberately located outside of the city, larger tracts of land were available as burial plots, in turn making possible the placement of larger and more elaborate tomb sculpture than had previously been possible.

The first rural cemetery in the United States was Mt. Auburn in Boston, Massachusetts, founded in 1832. Following its development were Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (1836); Greenwood Cemetery in New York City (1838); Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati, Ohio (1845); and Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston, South Carolina (1850). These cemeteries, especially Mt. Auburn, became the prototypes for others that were developed in the country. Mt. Auburn was owned by

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a non-profit organization, and the proceeds from the sale of plots went exclusively toward the cemetery's maintenance and improvement. Its park-like qualities caused it to become a popular excursion site for weekend outings.<sup>3</sup>

The rural cemetery movement reflected new attitudes toward death with a philosophy that stressed its inherent role in the cycle of life. The revival styles which were popular in 19th-century architecture, were paralleled by revival styles used in designing 19th-century cemetery art and architecture. The movement provided stimulation to the sculptural arts, wrought iron work, and because of the cemetery's popularity as a recreational site, even gave impetus to the establishment of municipal parks.

From 1847 to 1857, Kansas City's only graveyard consisted of a square block of land close to both the town square and business district (bounded by Oak, Locust, Missouri, and Independence). The block had been donated for use as a graveyard when the area was platted in 1847.<sup>4</sup> A new cemetery located at approximately East 28th Street and Warwick Boulevard was chartered in 1857 after the City Council passed an ordinance prohibiting further burials in the city cemetery. The new cemetery was named Union Cemetery in recognition of its location midway between the towns of Kansas City and Westport.<sup>5</sup>

Elmwood, Kansas City's first rural cemetery, was formally consecrated on September 9, 1872. At that time it was located outside the city limits on land that was originally part of a farm owned by Judge Lucius Cary. At the time of its consecration, the cemetery was enclosed by a white picket fence and only 1/10th of the projected improvements had been made. These improvements included a two-acre lake, a nursery and flower garden, and a rustic bridge spanning a brook. Future plans called for additional artificial lakes, cascades, fountains, and bridges.<sup>6</sup>

Around 1872, two acres in Elmwood Cemetery were purchased by the B'Nai Jehudah congregation. Crowded conditions at an earlier cemetery at 18th Street and Lydia, founded in 1866, motivated the purchase. Shortly after the purchase, the 37 remains interred at the old cemetery site were transferred to Elmwood. There are now more than 2,000 graves in the Jewish section of the cemetery, located at the southwest corner of the grounds.<sup>7</sup>

Until 1896 Elmwood cemetery operated as a private, profit-oriented business. The lots were sold and the owners devoted as much expense as they desired to the maintenance of the property. Several of Kansas City's leading citizens and owners of Elmwood lots realized that no plans had been made for the future maintenance and care of the property. "It was feared that when the last grave had been sold and the last opportunity for profit had been exhausted, a mercenary company would abandon the grounds to abuse and decay."<sup>8</sup>

On June 7, 1896, a number of men concerned about this possibility met and through mutual subscription raised the funds to purchase the entire 40 acres from the private owners. The cemetery was then reorganized to provide for its perpetual existence,

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with what was then thought to be adequate legal safeguards and financial resources for the ensuing centuries. The Elmwood Cemetery Society was incorporated as a benevolent institution under the laws of the State of Missouri and was granted a 999-year charter (running to A.D. 2895), with its sole object the owning, maintaining, and perpetuating of the cemetery.<sup>9</sup> Elmwood was the only cemetery in Kansas City to have this kind of protective charter that prohibited personal and civic encroachments, prevented the removal of graves and monuments, and prevented the property being used or transferred for other purposes.

Other provisions ensured that aesthetic standards would be maintained. Only one monument was allowed per lot to avoid a crowded appearance, and all monument plans had to be approved by the Board of Directors before one could be erected. Trees and shrubs were not to be removed to make room for graves.<sup>10</sup>

The Elmwood Cemetery Society, still operating today, is governed by a Board of Directors, who serve without remuneration. The members of the first Board were elected by the lot owners. Membership on the Board is self-perpetuating, in that when a vacancy occurs, the remaining directors elect a successor who must be a lot owner and a resident of Kansas City. All revenues derived from the property must first be used to meet current operating expenses; secondly, to make improvements; and third, to be invested as part of the general Perpetual Maintenance Fund. Members of the first Board of Directors were Kirkland B. Armour, F. S. Doggett, J. F. Downing, John H. Thacher, E. R. Hunter, and I. C. Krauthoff. Kirkland B. Armour served as President of the Society from 1896-1899; from 1899-1915 William J. Smith was the President; followed by Fred S. Doggett from 1915-1924.<sup>11</sup>

During the first four years the Society had control of the property, over \$100,000 was spent in improving the grounds. By January of 1897, \$4500 was expended on the erection of a 600-foot stone culvert with accompanying roadway, the addition of new fences on the west side of the grounds, and in the partial filling in of a long ravine which had marred the grounds.

Also underway was the construction of a new public vault of marble and granite, containing thirty-two catacombs, that was to cost \$10,000.<sup>12</sup> By 1900 money had also been spent for grading, constructing sewers, planting shrubs and trees, and in erecting an iron fence around the grounds. Other contemplated plans in 1900 were to build a lodge at the main gate and an arched gateway at the 15th Street entrance, both of which were probably not constructed. All these improvements were initiated under the direction of George Kessler, who deserves credit for the plan of the cemetery as it exists today.<sup>13</sup> Kessler, a landscape architect, had planned the park and boulevard system for Kansas City and had served as landscape engineer of the World's Fair in St. Louis. His successes caused him to become a prominent consulting landscape architect and planner for cities throughout the midwest.<sup>14</sup> Later improvements to the cemetery consisted of the erection of a chapel, a crematorium and columbarium addition to the chapel, and an office building.

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The small Kirkland B. Armour Memorial Chapel was erected by Mrs. Kirkland Brooks Armour in honor of her husband in 1904. When Mr. Armour died in 1901, plans for the chapel had already been drawn. Armour had been President of the Armour Packing Company, a leader in the Kansas City meat packing industry.<sup>15</sup> The Gothic-inspired chapel was designed by B. H. Marshall of Chicago, with Kansas City architect George Mathews serving as the local architect. The \$35,000 structure had a seating capacity of 80 and the first funeral service was held in the chapel in March of 1904.<sup>16</sup> The three-panel stained glass windows on the north wall are a memorial to Mrs. Armour, given in 1922 by Kirkland Armour's brother, Charles W. Armour.<sup>17</sup>

In 1917 plans were announced for the construction of a cemetery office and an addition to the chapel. The construction of the office was delayed, but it appears that the chapel addition was started in 1917. The addition consisted of a columbarium (a room for the repository of urns) and a crematorium. Architects for the chapel addition were Wight and Wight.<sup>18</sup>

Wight and Wight were also the architects for the cemetery office which was erected in 1925. The office, near the East 15th Street (Truman Road) entrance, was constructed at a cost of \$15,000.<sup>19</sup>

Many of Kansas City's most prominent citizens and their families have made Elmwood their final resting place. A selected sampling illustrates the status which Elmwood achieved as an appropriate resting place for the giants of Kansas City's social, political, and business community. Major George N. Blossom (burial 1885), was a leading businessman and proprietor of the Blossom Hotel and the Union Depot Hotel.<sup>20</sup> T. B. Bullene (burial 1894), was a businessman associated with the prestigious firm of Bullene, Moore and Emery, an early department store. Bullene was elected mayor of Kansas City in 1883, was President of the Kansas City Railroad Company, and was the first President of Kansas City's Humane Society.<sup>21</sup> Colonel Elijah Milton McGee (burial 1873), a businessman and realtor, was elected Mayor of Kansas City in 1870.<sup>22</sup> Simeon Brooks Armour (burial 1899) was one of the members of the first Park Board and was associated with the Planking and Armour Packing Company.<sup>23</sup> Louis Denebeim (burial 1938) was a founder of Louis Denebeim and Sons Company, one of the largest tobacco, candy and fountain supply houses in the midwest. He was also one of the founders of the Keneseth Israel-Beth Shalom Synagogue.<sup>24</sup> William P. Borland (burial 1919) helped to organize the Kansas City School of Law and served as Dean of the school for 14 years. He was elected to Congress in 1908 where he served until his death.<sup>25</sup> William T. Thayer (burial 1907), was Secretary-Treasurer of the Emery, Bird and Thayer Dry Goods Company. In 1901 he was elected President of the Commercial Club, forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce.<sup>26</sup>

Current Status and Condition

Elmwood is still active as a burial ground, but the financial support plan of the 1890's has not enabled the cemetery to keep up with inflation, dollar devaluation,

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and increased maintenance and labor costs. In 1980, a support group was founded, the Friends of Elmwood. The group hopes to help the Cemetery meet its expenses as well as to offer educational tours through the grounds, plan for new plantings, and establish an arboretum labelling program.

The survey of Missouri's historic sites is based on the selection of sites as they relate to theme studies in "Missouri's State Historic Preservation Plan". Elmwood Cemetery, therefore, is being nominated to the National Register as an example of the themes of "architecture", "landscape architecture", and "urban design".

FOOTNOTES

1. J. B. Jackson, "From Monument to Place", Landscape 17 (Winter 1967-68):22-23; Naomi R. Remes, "The Rural Cemetery", Nineteenth Century 5 (Winter 1979): 52-53.
2. Remes, "The Rural Cemetery", p. 52.
3. Stanley French, "The Cemetery as Cultural Institution: The Establishment of Mount Auburn and the 'Rural Cemetery' Movement", American Quarterly 26: (March 1974) 45, and 52-53.
4. W. J. Ward, History of the Square Between Oak and Locust, Missouri and Independence Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri, (Kansas City: Woody Printer, n.d.).
5. "Union Cemetery Gravestones Carry Dates Back to 1750", Kansas City Star, 21 August 1935, p. 5.
6. "Our Long Home", Kansas City Times, 7 September 1872, p. 4.
7. Frank Adler, "The Jewish Community's Pioneers Lie at Rest in Elmwood Cemetery", Kansas City Jewish Chronicle, 2 April 1976, p. 44.
8. "New Elmwood's Plans", Kansas City Star, 10 January 1897, p. 2.
9. Ibid.
10. Beautiful Elmwood, (Kansas City: Elmwood Cemetery Crematory and Columbarium, n.d.), p. 18.
11. Ibid., p. 15.
12. "New Elmwood's Plans", Kansas City Star, 10 January 1897, p. 2.

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13. "None So Beautiful", Kansas City Journal, 30 December 1900, p. 14.
14. George Creel and John Slavens, comps. Men Who Are Making Kansas City, (Kansas City: Hudson-Kimberly Publishing Company, 1902), p. 78.
15. "K. B. Armour Ill", Kansas City Journal, 25 August 1901, p. 1; "K. B. Armour's Will Filed", Kansas City Star, 8 October 1901, p. 1.
16. "First Service in New Chapel", Kansas City Times, 21 March 1904, p. 4; Kansas City Architect and Builder, November 1902, p. 11; Western Contractor, 27 May 1903, p. 1.
17. Elmwood Cemetery Society, Minutes of Meetings of the Board of Directors, meeting of 8 November 1921.
18. "Improvements Under Way", Kansas City Star, 2 April 1917, p. 13.
19. Western Contractor, 29 July 1925, p. 34.
20. Carrie Westlake Whitney, Kansas City, Missouri, Its History and Its People, 1808-1908, 3 vols., (Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1908), 3:659.
21. Ibid., pp. 390-91.
22. George Fuller Green, A Condensed History of the Kansas City Area (Kansas City: The Lowell Press, 1968), p. 63.
23. Whitney, Kansas City, Missouri, 3:52 and 159.
24. "Car Kills a Man", Kansas City Times, 15 December 1938, p. 1.
25. "W. P. Borland Dies Abroad", Kansas City Times, 22 February 1919, p. 1.
26. "A Worker for Kansas City", Kansas City Times, 1 April 1907, p. 1.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Adler, Frank, "The Jewish Community's Pioneers Lie at Rest in Elmwood Cemetery." Kansas City Jewish Chronicle, 2 April 1976.

Atlas of Kansas City, Missouri. 3rd ed. Philadelphia, Pa.: G. M. Hopkins, 1891.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approx. 43 acres

Quadrangle name "Kansas City, Mo."

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A 

|   |    |
|---|----|
| 1 | 15 |
|---|----|

|   |   |    |   |    |    |
|---|---|----|---|----|----|
| 3 | 6 | 17 | 8 | 14 | 15 |
|---|---|----|---|----|----|

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|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|
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## Verbal boundary description and justification

All NE 1/4 SW 1/4 Sec. 2 49 33 all lots 1 thru 28 Brighton Park and Vac Alleys Adj.

## List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

|       |      |        |      |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

|       |      |        |      |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. Sherry Piland/ Ellen Uguccione, architectural historians

organization Landmarks Commission of Kansas City date February 17, 1983

street & number 26th Floor East, City Hall telephone (816) 274-2555

city or town Kansas City state Missouri

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register, and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Director, Department of Natural Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer

date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Elmwood Cemetery Item number 9 Page 1

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received  
date entered

Continuation sheet Elmwood Cemetery Item number 9 Page 2

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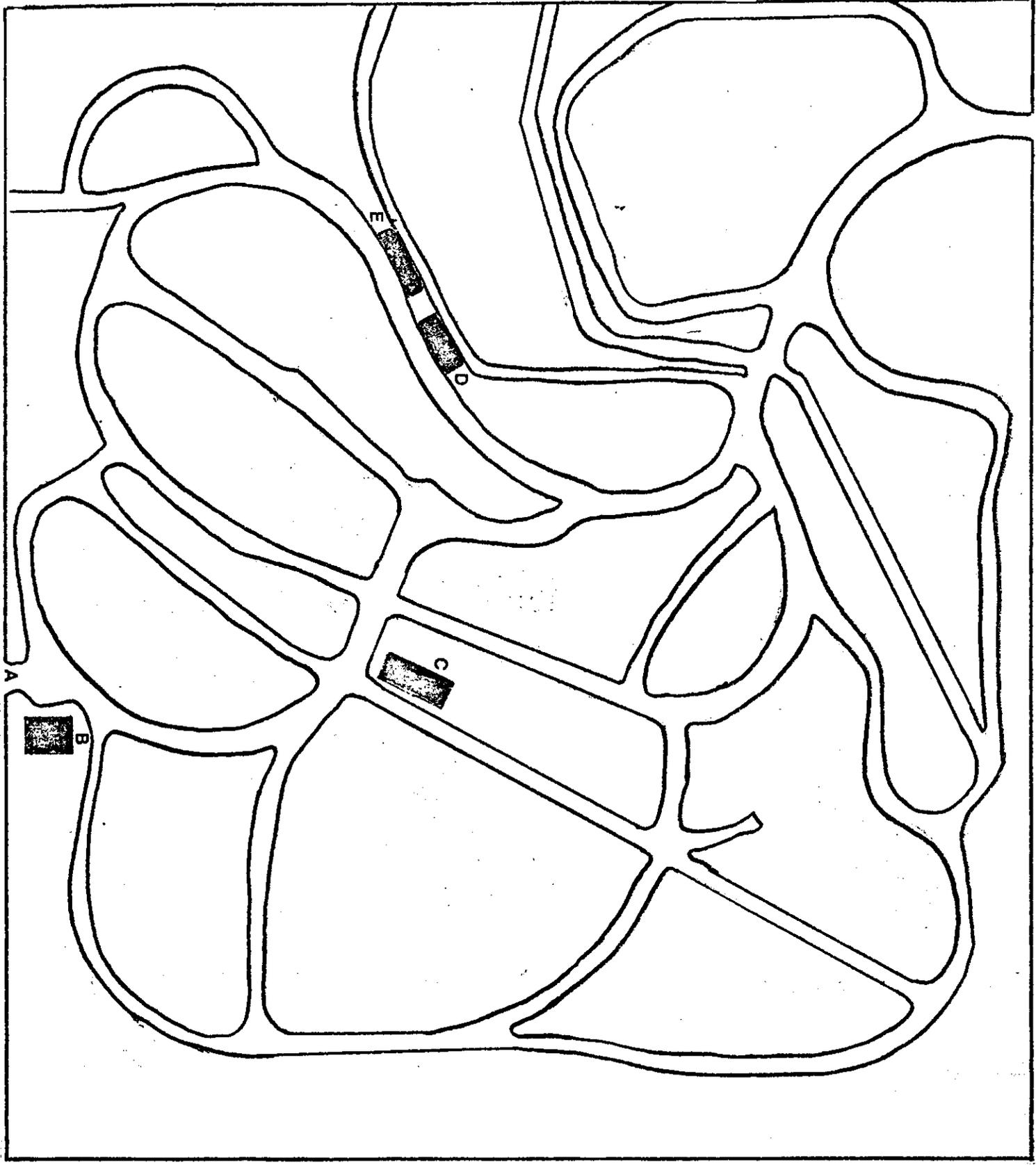
"W. P. Borland Dies Abroad." Kansas City Times, 22 February 1919, p. 1.

Item number 11 Page 1

2. James M. Denny, Chief, Nominations-Survey  
and State Contact Person  
Department of Natural Resources  
Historic Preservation Program  
P.O. Box 176  
Jefferson City,

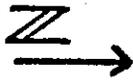
February 17, 1983  
314/751-4096  
Missouri 65102

- LEWISWOOD CEMETERY SITE PLAN MAP:  
A - Main Entrance Gate  
B - Cemetery Office (1925)  
C - Kirkland Armour Chapel (1904)  
D - Public Vault (c. 1897)  
E - Public Crematorium (C. 1897)



VAN BRUNT Blvd.

Twelfth Street





Elmwood Cemetery  
 U.S.G.S. 7.5' Quadrangle  
 "Kansas City, MO." 1975  
 Scale 1:24,000

- UTM References:
- A 15/367845/ 4328580
  - B 15/ 368300/ 4328560
  - C 15/ 368280/ 4328140
  - D 15/ 367820/ 4328140

KANSAS CITY

K A W

**Photo Log:**

Name of Property: Elmwood Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Kansas City

County: Jackson County State: MO

Photographer: Sherry Piland

Date

Photographed: Oct. 1982

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 11. Truman Rd. Entrance Gate. View looking SW.
- 2 of 11. Public Vault, N façade. View looking SW.
- 3 of 11. Crematorium, N façade. View looking S.
- 4 of 11. Bales Monument. View looking N.
- 5 of 11. Mary Flagg Monument. View looking E.
- 6 of 11. Hearnes Monument. View looking W.
- 7 of 11. Kirkland B. Armour Chapel. View looking NW. E façade on right, S façade on left.
- 8 of 11. Kirkland B. Armour Chapel. View looking SW. N façade (addition) on right, E façade on left.
- 9 of 11. Cemetery office, W façade. View looking E.
- 10 of 11. Cemetery office, N façade on right, E façade on left. View looking SW.
- 11 of 11. Waldo vault. View looking W.









WILLIAM  
WIFE OF  
WILLIAM BALES  
JULY 18, 1844  
OCT 2, 1911

BALES

DAY REST



NETTLETON

EDGERS

MARY FLAKE  
JULY 4 1861  
APR 11 1888



HEARNS



SPEED  
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15  
M.P.H.





OFFICE  
ELMWOOD  
CEMETERY  
AND  
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