

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Mt. Woods Cemetery  
 other names/site number Mt. Wood Cemetery, Hebrew and Jewish Orthodox Cemetery, Eoff Street Temple  
Cemetery

## 2. Location

street & number Mt. Wood Rd. n. of 4<sup>th</sup>  not for publication  
 city or town Wheeling  vicinity  
 state WV code 26003 county Ohio code 069 zip code 26003

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance: \_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Mt. Woods Cemetery  
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Ohio, WV  
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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
		buildings
1		sites
13	1	structures
		objects
14	1	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

Funerary: Cemetery

Funerary: Mausoleum

**Current Functions**

Funerary: Cemetery

Funerary: Mausoleum

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

Other: Rural Cemetery Movement

Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century: Classical & Gothic Revivals

Late Victorian

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Neo-

Classical Revival

**Materials**

foundation: Concrete, brick, Sandstone

walls: Sandstone, Limestone, Granite

roof: Slate, Metal

other: Sandstone, Granite, Concrete

**Narrative Description**

See continuation sheets.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**  
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

Landscape Architecture

Art

**Period of Significance**

1831-c.1950

**Significant Dates**

**Significant Person**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

N/A

**Period of Significance (justification)**

See continuation sheets

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

See continuation sheets

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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### Bibliography

Brant & Fuller, *History of the Upper Ohio Valley*, Vol 1, 1890.

Cemetery Records: Mt. Wood Cemetery, Ohio Co. WV, compiled by Audra Wayne, contributed by the Wheeling Area Genealogical Society, March 1976.

Cranmer, Hon. Gibson Lamb. *History of Wheeling City and Ohio County, West Virginia and Representative Citizens*. Chicago, Illinois: Biographical Publishing co. 1902.

Dillon, Glenna. *The Cemeteries of Ohio County, West Virginia*. Wheeling: Wheeling National Heritage Area Corporation, 2008.

Jewish and Hebrew Cemetery Maps. Temple Shalom Archives.

Ledger for Mt. Wood Cemetery. Wheeling Operations Office, Wheeling, W.Va.

Lohmeyer, Matthew S. and Kelley Coplan. 2002 Site Analysis for Mt Wood Cemetery, Wheeling, West Virginia, Ohio County. In care of Gabe Hayes, Hays Landscape Architecture, St. Clairsville, Ohio.

Lowy, Rabbi Daniel, "History of Jews in Wheeling" as recorded by Jeanne Finstein.

National Park Service, "Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places," National Register Bulletin (U.S. Department of the Interior, 1992).

Ohio County Deed Book #31, pg. 112. Ohio County Courthouse, Wheeling, W.Va.

Pregil, Philip and Nancy Volkman. *Landscapes in History: Design and Planning in the Eastern and Western Traditions*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1999.

Wheeling Illustrated, H. R. Page & Co., 1889. (<http://wheeling.weirton.lib.wv.us/history/1889/index.htm>, accessed July 2013).

Wheeling Intelligencer and News Register newspaper articles.

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)  
 previously listed in the National Register  
 previously determined eligible by the National Register  
 designated a National Historic Landmark  
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

#### Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other

Name of repository: Temple Shalom

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreeage of Property** 12.49 acres

### UTM References

A	17	523437 4437075
B	17	523848 4436973
C	17	523694 4436743
D	17	523451 4436799

### Verbal Boundary Description

The Mt. Woods Cemetery boundary includes parcels W29-241 and W29-269 in the City of Wheeling.

### Boundary Justification

The nominated boundaries contain all of the extant significant historic property associated with the cemetery. The nominated sections include the original layout sections A-H, and the later additions, I-P, as well as Campbell's addition. This nomination also includes the adjoining Jewish-Orthodox Cemetery that is owned by Temple Shalom, but is considered part of Mt. Woods Cemetery.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Rebekah Karelis  
organization Wheeling National Heritage Area date 11/10/12  
street & number 1400 Main St telephone 304-232-3087  
city or town Wheeling state WV zip code 26003  
e-mail [bkarelis@wheelingheritage.org](mailto:bkarelis@wheelingheritage.org)

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## Photographs:

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Name of Property: **Mt Woods Cemetery**

City or Vicinity: **Wheeling**

County: **Ohio** State: **WV**

Photographer: **Rebekah Karelis** (historic images from *Wheeling Illustrated*, H. R. Page & Co., 1889).

Date Photographed: **Summer 2012**

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 41	Historic Photo, Wise Monument, looking North-Northeast
2 of 41	Historic Photo, Wilson Monument, looking Northeast
3 of 41	Historic Photo, List Mausoleums, looking Southwest
4 of 41	Entrance Gate, looking North-Northwest
5 of 41	South Pillar of Entrance Gate, looking South-southwest
6 of 41	North Pillar of Entrance Gate, looking East
7 of 41	Plaque on Entrance Gate Pillar, looking North
8 of 41	Ironwork on Gate, on North Pillar, looking North
9 of 41	Forbes Mausoleum, Section I, looking North-Northeast
10 of 41	Scott Mausoleum, Section I, looking North-Northwest
11 of 41	Pracht Mausoleum, Section B, looking East-Southeast
12 of 41	Cotts Mausoleum, Section B, looking North-Northeast
13 of 41	Hobbs Mausoleum, Section B, looking North-Northeast

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- 14 of 41 Bishop/Robb Mausoleum, Section G, looking West
- 15 of 41 Fleming and Bradford Mausoleums, Section B, looking East
- 16 of 41 List Mausoleums, Section A, looking South
- 17 of 41 Rosenberg Arch, Section G, looking North
- 18 of 41 View from inside entrance gate looking North
- 19 of 41 Main Road and Section H, looking North-Northwest
- 20 of 41 Main Road from gate, looking North-Northwest
- 21 of 41 Section C, looking East
- 22 of 41 Section A, looking East-Southeast
- 23 of 41 View from Section A, looking South
- 24 of 41 From Section H near Section A, looking South
- 25 of 41 Section E from Main Road, looking West
- 26 of 41 Section H, looking South
- 27 of 41 Section F and G, looking East
- 28 of 41 Section C, looking Northeast
- 29 of 41 Section H, looking South
- 30 of 41 George P. Wilson Monument, looking South
- 31 of 41 Alfred Caldwell Monument, Section A, looking Southeast
- 32 of 41 John McLure Jr. White Bronze Monument, Section A, looking Northwest
- 33 of 41 Noah Linsly Obelisk, Section C, looking South
- 34 of 41 Goshorn Family Monument, Section H, looking North
- 35 of 41 Simon P. Hullihen, Section A, looking North
- 36 of 41 Woods Family Graves, Section G, looking West
- 37 of 41 Dr. Thomas Townsend Monument, Section D, looking North
- 38 of 41 Jewish Section Wall & Gate, looking North-Northwest
- 39 of 41 Jewish Section, looking Northwest
- 40 of 41 Jewish Section, looking West
- 41 of 41 Jewish Section, looking West

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**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

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name City of Wheeling  
street & number 1500 Chapline Street telephone 304-234-3617  
city or town Wheeling state WV zip code 26003

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name Temple Shalom  
street & number 23 Bethany Pike telephone 304-233-4870  
city or town Wheeling state WV zip code 26003

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**Location and Setting**

Located on what is known as "Wheeling Hill," Mt. Woods Cemetery lies north of Wheeling's main commercial area, off U.S. Route 40 (National Road) on Mt. Wood Road. The cemetery is perched high above "Jonathan's Ravine" and overlooks the Ohio River, Wheeling Creek and Wheeling Island. It includes one contributing site, the cemetery. Included within the site are all of the stone walls, steps, pathways, and grave markers. Also included within the boundaries are 13 contributing structures (two entrance walls with gates, 10 family mausoleums, and one stone arch). The Mt. Woods Cemetery consists of 11.5 acres and the Jewish section is .99 acres.

**1 -Mt. Woods Cemetery** **1831, 1848, 1865** **1 contributing site**

Mt. Woods Cemetery is perched atop a hill with many interments on the hillsides, especially within the Jewish section which is very steep (Photos 39-41). The road and path system throughout the cemetery remains unchanged since the period of significance (Photos 19-20, 22, 27, 29, 33), though their modern pavement is somewhat deteriorated. The road through the cemetery does not form a symmetrical pattern, but meanders along the contour of the mountainside until reaching and circling the summit. Roadways are approximately 12-foot wide. Modern and historic concrete walkways and stairways meander throughout the cemetery.

Like most parks, Mt. Woods Cemetery is a rolling cemetery, with many old trees, mostly oaks (Photos 24-29). The grounds are clear of shrubbery, though there are a few bushes dotting the landscape. The cemetery is filled with large and stately trees that date from the 1930s plantings or earlier. Historically, the landscape had more shrubs and plantings for each gravesite. With changing of cemetery upkeep ideologies, however, many plantings have been removed for easier upkeep and mowing between the gravestones.

The cemetery plots, originally numbering 1075, were laid out to conform to the contour of the landscape (Sections A through H). While the cemetery includes numerous simple headstones and grave markers, it also displays high-style classical and Victorian markers and monuments. Later, ca. 1870, 965 cemetery plots comprising sections J through P, were plotted to the lower sections on the western hillside. Less than half were ever conveyed and the woods have encroached on the majority of these sections. The original entrance gate was moved approximately 30 feet west of its original location, and the small section, "Section I" (Photo 4) was created just inside the gate, providing an additional 21 plots.

Section A (Photo 22) was likely considered the "prime" section as it is located at the summit of the hill. It is here that many of the more notable individuals are buried and some of the larger and more prominent obelisks and markers stand. Among the many monuments are imposing obelisks for Hullahen and McLure families, more modest obelisks of Alfred Caldwell (Photo 31), Edward M. Norton, William P. Wilson (Photos 2 and 30), and one particularly weathered marble obelisk belonging to the Luke family.

Throughout the cemetery are many older grave markers of slate or limestone that predate the cemetery's establishment. Some are intricately carved, and others are absent of decoration. There are several graves that were relocated here after the closing of the Hempfield, Chapline and East Wheeling cemeteries in the mid-late 1800s. The earliest stone is dated March 22, 1817.

One of the most unique markers is that of Dr. Thomas Townsend (Photo 37). It is a large and broad, at 6 feet tall and 3 1/2 feet wide, old-world style tablet that is set almost upon the road, in Section C. He was a respected Quaker doctor who moved to Wheeling to practice medicine and died shortly after Mt. Woods Cemetery's incorporation.

Captain John McLure's white bronze monument (Photo 32) is one of the tallest obelisks in the cemetery and is

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located in Section A. It was recently struck by a fallen tree limb, and the top section is lying on the ground next to the base. This hollow-metal marker is a bluish-gray color, earning it its "white bronze" name. This type of marker was popular during the 1870s-1915 and is composed of cast zinc. There are a few other smaller white bronze obelisks found in other sections of this cemetery.

At the highest point of the hill is the obelisk of Dr. Simon P. Hullihen (Photo 35). On it is written: "Eminent as a surgeon the wide fame of his bold original genius was everywhere blended with gratitude for his benefactions. Erected by the citizens of Wheeling in memory of one who had so lived among them that they mourned his death as a public calamity. Nothing perishes of that which makes his life memorable and his death lamented. His soul was affectionate sincere generous intrepid and full of noble impulses."

Other headstones include flush bronze markers and marble stones marking the graves of veterans of wars, some table top monuments, like those found at the Woods family plot (Photo 36), and tablets. The cemetery is a mix of tombstone forms and styles. Most markers are granite, limestone, or marble.

The overall site includes a number of significant, contributing features including cast iron water spickets, stone retaining walls, low walls surrounding individual plots, gates and fences surrounding individual plots, as well as the various headstones, footstones, and monuments throughout the cemetery including the Wise Monument (Photo 1).

Though considered part of Mt. Woods Cemetery, the Jewish cemetery has been owned and maintained separately from the rest of the cemetery since it was purchased and established, with the main road serving as the only demarcation between the two cemeteries. This cemetery is on a very steep hillside, which has caused the slippage of earth and the offsetting of many closely-situated gravestones. There are several 4 foot wide walkways and stairways throughout this section. On an early map, an unidentified building was also located in this section, but is non-extant.

Temple Shalom, owners of this section of the cemetery, have installed new retaining walls in order to keep the ground from shifting down the hill and graded several of the walkways. The longest walkway has an installed aluminum railing to aid visitors in traversing the steep grade. The material of the original walkway is unknown. See resource 15 below. (Photos 39-41)

**2 - Entrance Gate** **ca. 1920** **1 contributing structure**

There is only one vehicular and pedestrian gate into the cemetery. It is located on the southern boundary, along Mt. Wood Road. Louis Bertschy had the entrance gate constructed at his expense during the 1920s. According to a bronze plaque affixed to the gate, "Mt Wood Cemetery Founded 1848 Pathway to McCulloch's Leap on Sept. 3rd, 1777." The gate posts are approximately 10 feet tall at the tallest point with each column constructed of 3' X 3' gold colored brick, capped with concrete tops and ornate balls. The gate is wrought iron. (Photos 4-8)

**3 - Rosenberg Arch** **1886** **1 contributing structure**

This stone arch is located in Section G and marks the grave of J.H. and Henrietta Rosenberg. Constructed of rough cut limestone, the arch is 15 feet in width and 9 feet high. The depth of the arch is 3 feet and at each end stands a cut-off pillar. On the bottom side of the arch are 6 inset sandstone panels with 7 clusters of carved stars. One large star is mounted in the center of the underside of the arch. It appears that some decorative element such as an urn might have sat on either end of the arch's pillars, but are now gone. The perimeter of the sloping plot is surrounded by a limestone wall. (Photo 17)

**4 - Forbes mausoleum** **1889** **1 contributing structure**

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This mausoleum is located in Section I, immediately inside and to the right of the entrance. There is a threshold located just before the entrance to the plot that has "Forbes" carved in the stone. The structure is constructed of sandstone, with 4 large slabs of slate set atop a front gable roof. The doorway has been bricked in, due to previous vandalism and the roofline cap has deteriorated. It measures approximately 16 x 12 feet in size. (Photo 9)

**5 – Scott mausoleum** **ca. 1890** **1 contributing structure**

Located in Section I, the Scott mausoleum sits very close to the Forbes mausoleum. Romanesque Revival in style, the front gable is steeply pitched. The size is approximately 12 X 12 feet square. Its sandstone façade has a few decorative features like a quatrefoil set inside a circle 20" in diameter above an arched doorway that has been bricked in. There is also an opening for a window on the western façade that has been bricked in. (Photo 10)

**6 – Cotts mausoleum** **1863** **1 contributing structure**

Located in Section B, the Cotts mausoleum is a tumulus style vault with a baroque-styled entrance with Victorian embellishments. Only the front façade is out of ground, the rest of the vault is within the hillside. Walls supported the ground outside either side of the entrance and show signs of failure and settlement. The stones surrounding the doorway and used in the walls are carved with concave insets. The vault is 11 feet across and 10 feet in height. (Photo 12)

**7 – John L. Hobbs mausoleum** **ca. 1875** **1 contributing structure**

The Hobbs mausoleum is located in Section B and is constructed into the hillside with only the front façade and doorway exposed. It is a tumulus style also, like Cotts' mausoleum, but it has some baroque and Moorish elements. There are several pointed short columns around the edges of the plot, as well as a threshold that has "Hobbs" carved on its face. A long retaining wall stretches from the vault along the hillside to the east. (Photo 13)

**8 - Bishop/Robb mausoleum** **ca. 1856** **1 contributing structure**

Bishop and Robb's mausoleum, located in Section H, resembles a small square castle with a short battlement at the roofline and projecting bastions. This mausoleum stands approximately 12 feet high and 12 feet square. Marble shields at each corner bear the names of those buried within. Constructed of various sized, dressed limestone. The roof has collapsed inward. (Photo 14)

**9 - Pracht mausoleum** **1893** **1 contributing structure**

The Pracht mausoleum, located in Section B, is one of the most high-style in the district with both classical and Renaissance characteristics. A tall, front gable structure, it stands approximately 20 feet in height and is 18 X 11 feet in size, the largest mausoleum in the cemetery. It features short, inset columns, decorative stonework, and a wrought iron gate. Above the door, is also a stone lintel that has "Weisgerber" carved on it, though it is unknown if anyone of that name is buried within. Two 4 X 2 foot arched windows, both bricked in, are found on the east and west facades. (Photo 11)

**10 – Bradford mausoleum** **ca. 1890s** **1 contributing structure**

This plot was formerly owned by the Ott family. The Bradford mausoleum is constructed of brick with sandstone quoins. The roof is a low-pitched, front gable and decorated with pressed metal at the cornice. The roof was



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Statement of Significance

Mt. Woods Cemetery is locally significant and eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under *Criterion C: Landscape Architecture*, as an excellent example of the "rural cemetery" movement, and under *Criterion C: Art*, for its collection of locally significant examples of antebellum, Victorian-era, and early to mid-20th century funerary art, design and commemoration. Since its primary significance is attained from distinctive design features, Mt. Woods Cemetery also meets *Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties*, since a portion of the cemetery is owned by a religious institution, and *Criteria Consideration D: Cemeteries*. The period of significance begins in 1831 with its first interment when it was part of the Woods family cemetery, and ends c.1950, reflecting the period when new interments, and thus the erection of funerary art, waned significantly.

History

The land on which Mt. Woods Cemetery is located was first acquired by Jonathan Zane, an early settler to the area, in the late eighteenth century. The property was later purchased by the Robert Woods family who reserved one area for family burials. The Woods brothers, Archibald, Andrew, and Robert, were a locally well-known trio who settled in the Wheeling area during the late 1700s.

Robert Woods (1754-1831) was the first interment in the family cemetery. His marker reads, "In memory of Robert T. Woods Who departed this life July 17, 1831, aged 77 years, 9 months and 12 days." Also buried there are his wife, Elizabeth Eoff Woods (1778-1832), their son Andrew Poage Woods (1799-1862), his wife Elizabeth Good Woods (1801-1850), and their children, John Good Woods and Joseph G. Woods. The Woods family section is on the western slope of the hill, facing North Wheeling and the Ohio River. Mt. Woods Cemetery was likely named in their honor.

That section of the property continued in the role of family cemetery from 1831, with the family patriarch's burial, until the 1840s when city and church cemeteries were becoming severely overcrowded. Specifically, the Hempfield Cemetery, which was deeded to the city of Wheeling in 1816 for use as a burying ground, was nearly full by 1840. These overcrowded conditions, in addition to the Hempfield property being eyed by the railroad for expansion, inspired locals to look for a new burial ground.<sup>1</sup>

In direct response to these issues, Robert C. Woods, a local surveyor and son of Robert Woods and his first wife, was employed to survey and lay out a cemetery on the Woods family property. His survey, as well as an application for incorporation of the Mt. Woods Cemetery Company, was submitted to the County Clerk of Ohio County, Virginia in May 1848. The application for incorporation was signed by founders, Thomas Sweeney, Moses C. Good, Henry Moore, Neil McNaughten, Morgan Nelson, Alfred Caldwell, and J.M. Bushfield.<sup>2</sup> The company selected John McLure to serve as president with Caldwell as secretary of the Mt. Wood Cemetery Board of Trustees. By this time, the property was owned by Benjamin B. McMechen who organized the sale of cemetery lots on behalf of the Mt. Woods Cemetery Company from its incorporation into the 1880s.

The roads were designed to be 12 feet wide, as they are found today. Also, a special 100 x 100 foot section, called "Oddfellows Square," was to be specifically devoted to that organization's members. In total, the original layout of the cemetery had 8 sections, A-H, for a total of 1075 plots.

Due to its pastoral nature and a fabulous view of Wheeling and the surrounding valleys, the cemetery quickly became popular as a place of interment, as well as a place to visit. Lots were purchased not only by Wheeling

<sup>1</sup> Cranmer, "History of Wheeling City and Ohio County, West Virginia and Representative Citizens," (1902), 294-295.

<sup>2</sup> Ohio county courthouse (deed book 31, page 112)

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residents but also by those people in the surrounding regions. It is the only location in Wheeling where you can see both the Ohio River Valley and the Wheeling Creek Valley.

An 1866 *Wheeling Intelligencer* article described the cemetery:

If you wish to find 'sermons in stone' we would advise a visit to Mount Woods Cemetery. The surrounding beauty and quiet solemnity of the place will serve to open up cherished memories and associations that have remained for many years isolated sacrifices to the cold charities and practical requirements of actual life. (May 21, 1866)

At the same time the vision of Mt. Woods Cemetery was being seen to fruition, Wheeling's Jewish population was burgeoning. In 1849, a formal congregation was established. With the sudden death of itinerant rabbi, Mayer Mannheim, the first order of business of the new congregation was to establish a Jewish cemetery. A section of land adjoining Mt. Woods Cemetery was purchased, and Rabbi Mannheim was interred there as the first Jewish burial.<sup>3</sup> Then known as the Hebrew Cemetery, the plots were formally laid out in 1865.<sup>4</sup>

Interments at Mt. Woods grew significantly in its first decades until 1866 with the establishment of Greenwood Cemetery east of the city which provided some alleviation. Nevertheless, Mt. Woods remained popular. By the late nineteenth century, Mt. Woods Cemetery was expanded with nearly 1000 plots in sections I through P. Around the same time, a small section of roadway just inside the entrance was resurveyed as cemetery plots and the roadway was moved approximately 30 feet south of the original road. "Campbell's Addition" was also added on the north side of the cemetery, flanking Sections D and E; however, no map exists for this section. While the exact dates of these changes and additions are unknown, based on dated grave markers, ca. 1870 is speculated.

Mt. Woods Cemetery is the final resting place for significant early settlers, planters, and local civic and economic leaders. Many of the individuals buried here still have existing residences, offices, or sites that represent their contributions to Wheeling and Ohio County. There are many significant people buried here including Simon Hullahen, considered the father of oral surgery by some; Capt. John McLure, a prominent riverboat captain; Edward Norton, early city leader; Noah Linsly, founder of Linsly Military Institute; John Goshorn, owner of the last slave to be returned according to the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850; Eliza Hughes, the first woman doctor to practice medicine in the newly-formed state of West Virginia; and, Col. Joseph Thoburn, who served with the First West Virginia Infantry and was fatally wounded at the Battle of Kernstown in 1864.

Burials and entombments at Mt. Woods continued unabated and rather regularly into the mid-twentieth century. However, by the 1970s, new burials were extremely infrequent. Since most of the coffers were exhausted on repairs after major vandalism in 1974, and number of volunteers willing to join the board continued to dwindle, the Mt. Woods Cemetery Association relieved that last sexton of his duties in 1975 and turned the property over to the city of Wheeling in 1977. The last burial took place in 2003.

Criterion C

Wheeling Hill, where Mt. Woods Cemetery is located, was purportedly the location where early settler and road builder, Ebenezer Zane, paused to declare the would-be Wheeling area, "the land of promise" for which he had been searching. It is no wonder, then, that it was the location later chosen for Wheeling's first park-like cemetery, known as a "rural" cemetery.

The country's rural cemetery movement originated in the European trends in gardening and landscape design ideals of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Prior to the movement, which began in earnest in the

<sup>3</sup> Lowy, Rabbi Daniel, "History of Jews in Wheeling" as recorded by Jeanne Finstein.

<sup>4</sup> Cranmer, 297.

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United States in the 1830s, most interments were made in small, overcrowded urban cemeteries generally associated with a church. The rural cemetery movement moved cemeteries to the city’s outskirts, usually perched on an elevated hilltop with existing woods and an impressive view of the surrounding area. Cemeteries designed with this plan incorporate the natural beauty of the landscape with carefully planned lots and a park-like setting. They were serene and spacious and combined nature and monuments to be spiritually uplifting. Rural cemeteries became a place of respite and were celebrated not only for their beauty, but also for their usefulness to the public as public parks.<sup>5</sup>

Mt. Woods Cemetery was planned and established during the 1840s to offer an alternative to the overcrowded Hempfield Cemetery in the city’s residential and commercial lowlands. It had both the existing woods and a very impressive view of Jonathan’s Ravine, the Ohio River, Wheeling Island, Wheeling Creek Valley, and much of the surrounding countryside. Gracefully curving roads and pathways adapted to the cemetery’s hilltop landscape. An 1866 *Wheeling Intelligencer* newspaper article described the landscape:

The flowers are beginning to bloom beautifully and the shrubbery is showing forth its sweetest livery of green. In the evening, when the sun has gone down, and when the air is cool and pleasant, you can wander amid the tombs of Mt Wood Cemetery and examine the monuments which mark the spot where different bodies are interred, or you can stand in the grounds and obtain a most excellent landscape view.

Though the rural cemetery movement reached its peak much earlier, Mt. Woods Cemetery continued upkeep of their natural park-like grounds into the twentieth century. In 1933, in collaboration with nearby Oglebay Park, 110 oaks were planted around the cemetery grounds, and 300 feet of concrete steps were constructed from Woods Street in North Wheeling into Mt. Woods Cemetery. The workmen constructed a trail for people to walk around the perimeter of the cemetery, though it is only slightly discernible today. They also painted the cemetery flag pole and topped trees. Gardeners did sodding, planting and pruning. Three crews of experienced carpenters constructed a “rustic” railing along the walkways, which was later removed.

Mausoleums became popular during the rural cemetery movement, permitted by the open landscape and surplus of land. Mt. Woods Cemetery has ten mausoleums as well as larger plots and well-spaced burial sites. Many of the mausoleums feature elements of architectural styles popular at the time they were constructed. For example, the D.C. List Mausoleum (later, the mausoleum for the Home for Aged Men) includes elements of the Classical Revival style (Photos 3 and 16) and the Bishop/Robb mausoleum is reminiscent of Jacobethan architecture with its crenellation and bastions with masonry shields (Photo 14). The Pracht mausoleum features elements of both Gothic Revival and Victorian style architecture (Photo 11).

The cemetery also includes a wide range of artistic expressions from vernacular hand-carved stones to ornate Victorian and Classical styled gravestones. There are some examples of Art Deco style monuments in the Jewish section, it being a more active cemetery well into the twentieth century. A majority of the markers on this property date from 1840s-1930s with the greatest concentration being during the mid-late 1800s. One of note is the Rosenberg Arch located in Section G. Erected in honor of a wife and mother, the arch stretches 15 feet wide and stands 8 feet tall. Six stars carved into the underside of the arch stretch across its length. The top of the arch is crested with a three dimensional cross (Photo 17).

Symbolic motifs are also varied with both religious and secular elements. Many of the gravestones are adorned with draped urns, the traditional symbol of sorrow and mourning. Other art found on the headstones are scrolls, stars, tree trunks, oaks, lilies of the valley, and weeping willows. Egyptian influence is demonstrated by the

<sup>5</sup> National Park Service, “Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places,” National Register Bulletin (U.S. Department of the Interior, 1992), 4-6.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places**  
**Continuation Sheet**

Mt Woods Cemetery
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Name of Property
Ohio County, WV
-----
County and State
-----
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number   8   Page       9      

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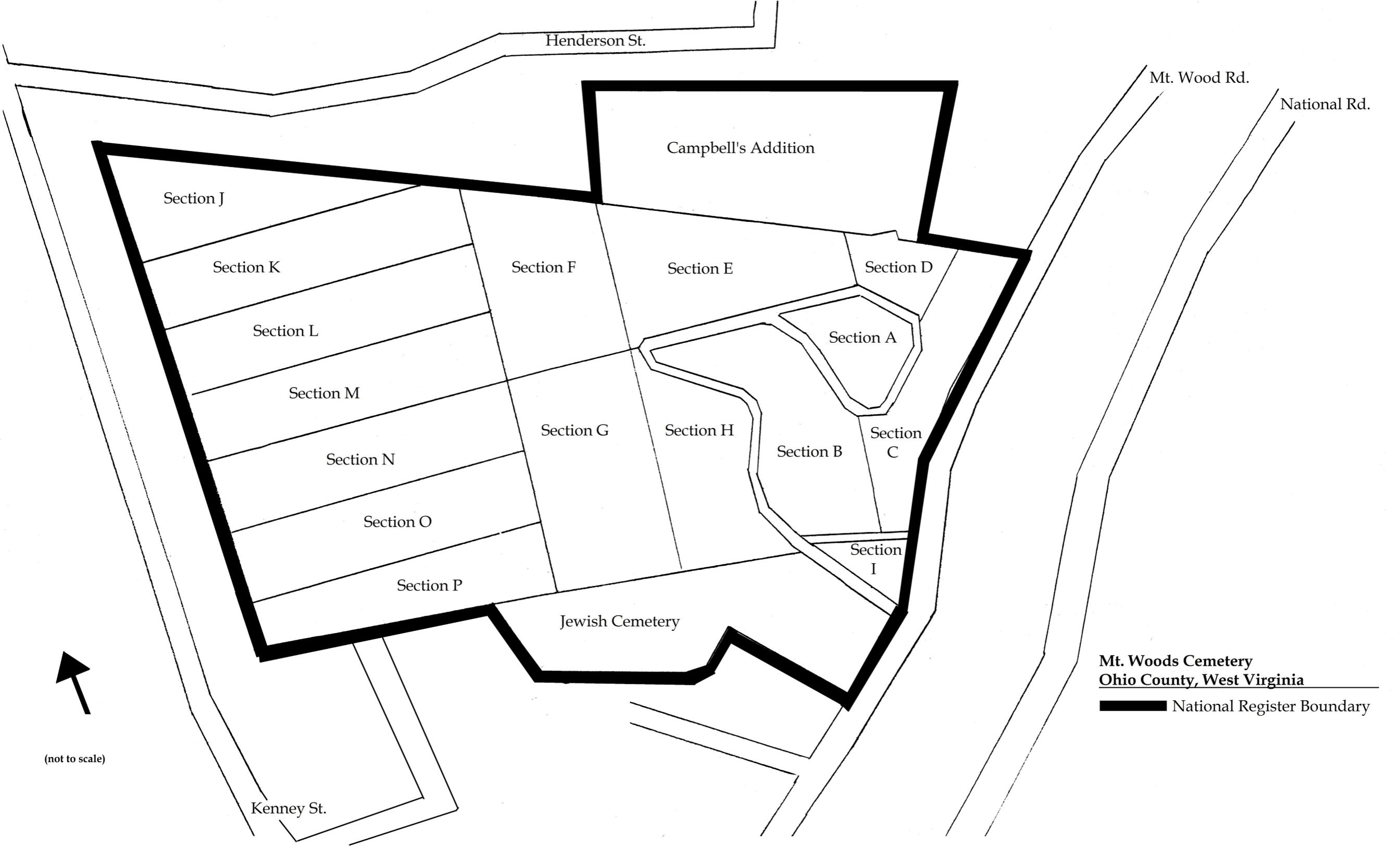
obelisks both large and small found throughout the cemetery (Photos 23, 31, and 33).<sup>6</sup> There are also many stately Victorian style markers from the late 1800s.

*Summary*

Mt. Woods Cemetery is extremely significant to Wheeling and its surrounding area as an important example of the rural cemetery movement popular in the mid to late nineteenth century as well as for the collection of various styles of funerary art dating from the early 1800s to the mid-twentieth century. The cemetery retains excellent integrity. The road and path system remains largely unchanged from the original design. The cemetery is filled with large and stately trees that date from the 1930s plantings and earlier. The City of Wheeling maintains the grounds of the Christian section on a regular basis, and the Temple Shalom congregation maintains the Jewish section.

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<sup>6</sup> Keister, Douglas. "Stories in Stone: A Field Guide to Cemetery Symbolism and Iconography," Gibbs Smith: Salt Lake City, 2004.



Henderson St.

Mt. Wood Rd.

National Rd.

Campbell's Addition

Section J

Section K

Section L

Section M

Section N

Section O

Section P

Section F

Section G

Jewish Cemetery

Section E

Section H

Section B

Section D

Section A

Section C

Section I

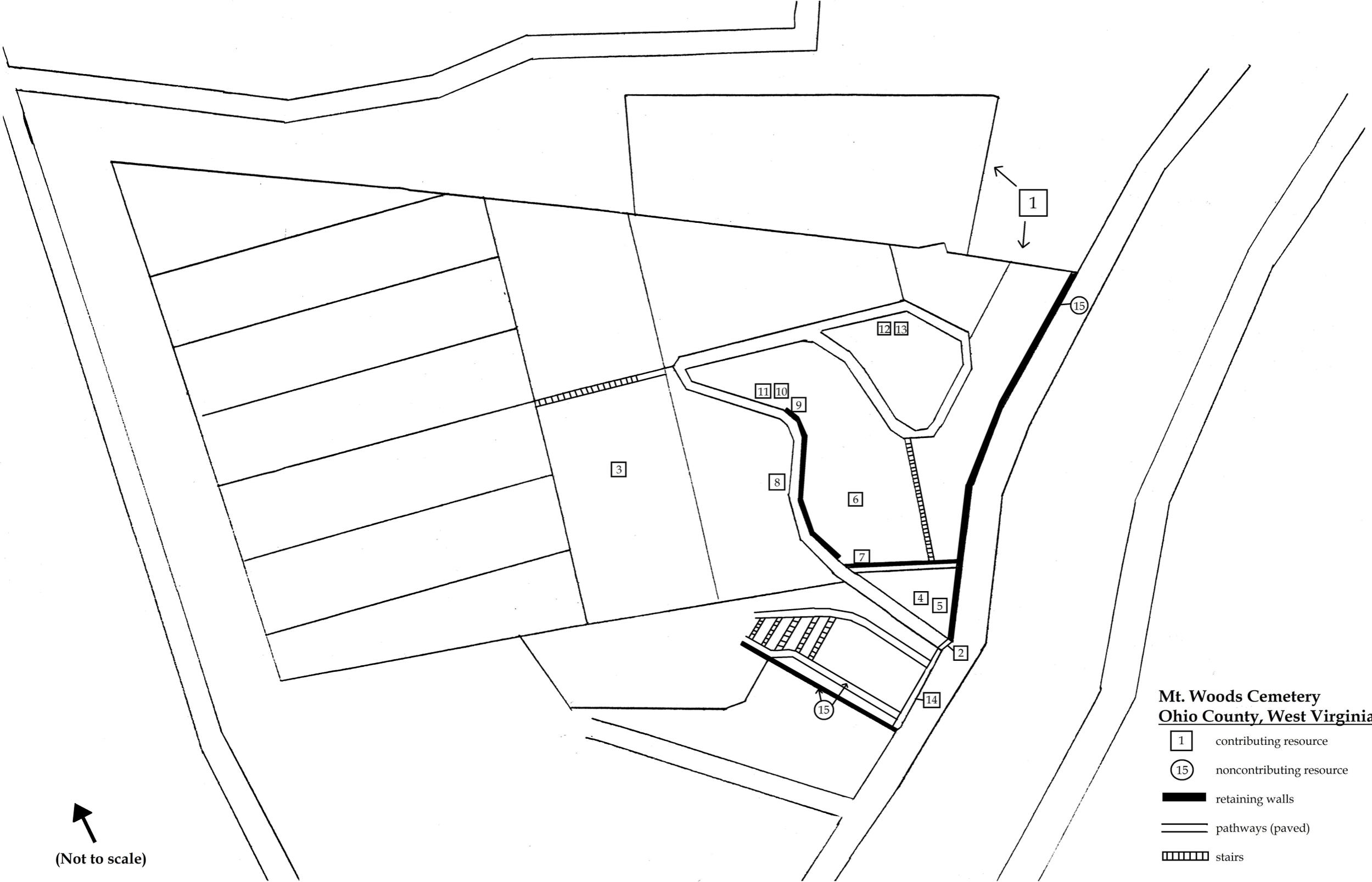
**Mt. Woods Cemetery**  
**Ohio County, West Virginia**

**█ National Register Boundary**



(not to scale)

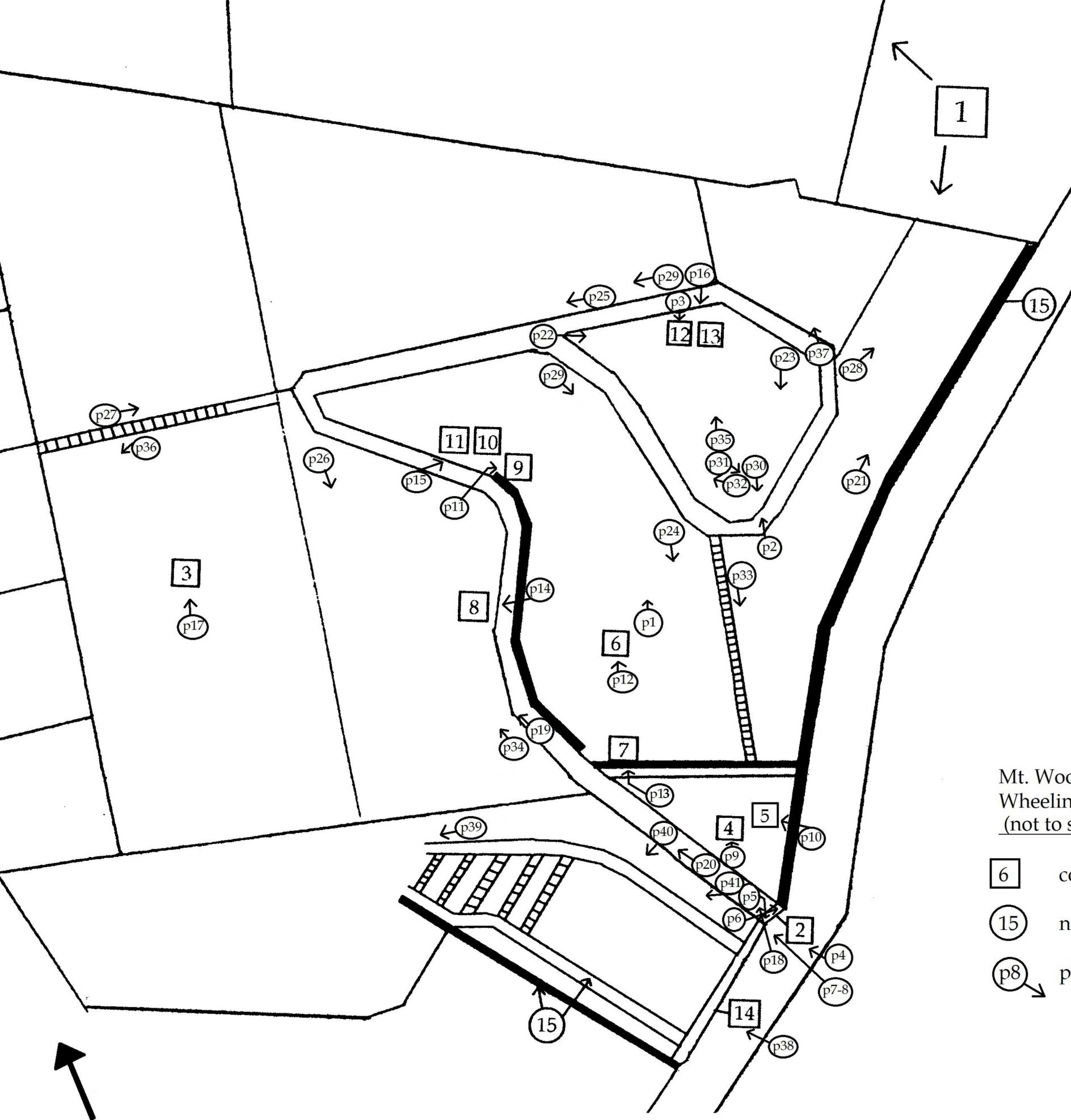
Kenney St.



**Mt. Woods Cemetery  
Ohio County, West Virginia**

- 1 contributing resource
- 15 noncontributing resource
- retaining walls
- pathways (paved)
- stairs

↑  
(Not to scale)

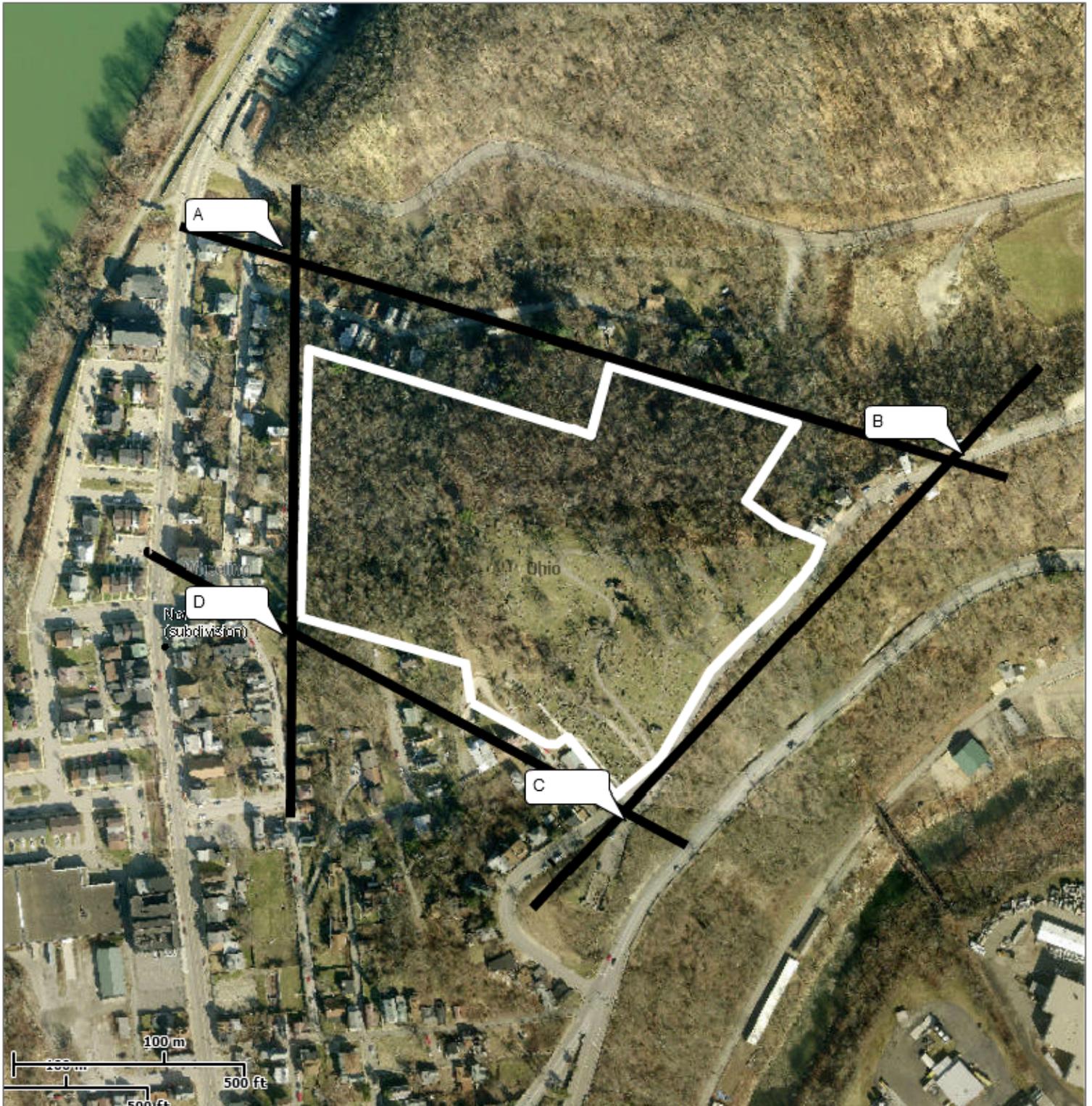


Mt. Woods Cemetery  
 Wheeling, Ohio County, West Virginia  
 (not to scale)

- 6 contributing resource
- 15 noncontributing resource
- p8 photo vantage

(not to scale)

# Mt. Wood Cemetery, Ohio County, West Virginia



This map is created by West Virginia GIS Technical Center for West Virginia SHPO GIS Map Viewer.

**Coordinate System:** WGS 1984 Web Mercator (Auxiliary Sphere)

Map Created on 7/3/2013

#### Architectural

- Point
- Area

#### National Register

- Point
- Area

#### User Notes:

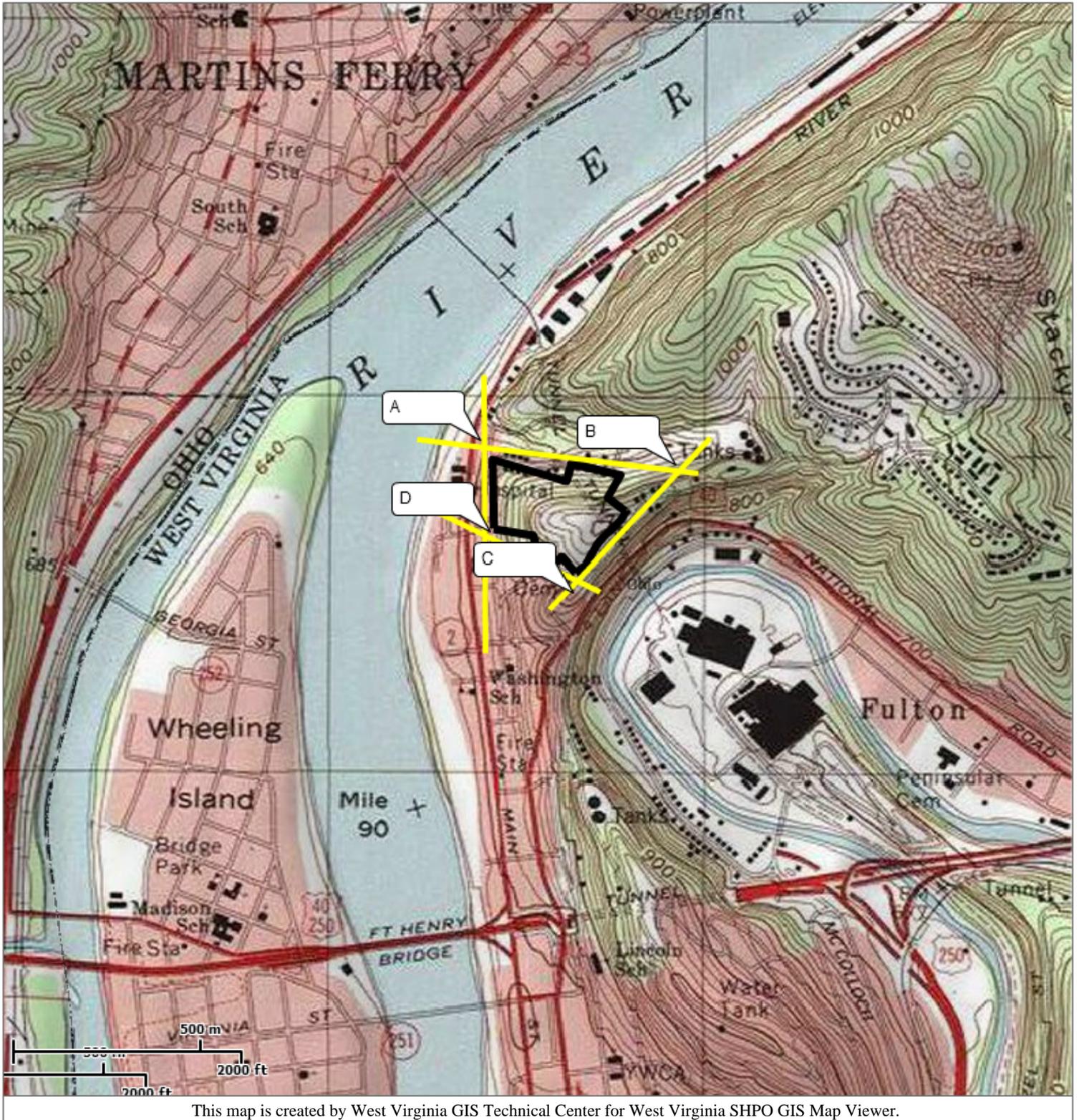
USGS 7.5' topographic quadrangles: Wheeling  
A: 17 523437 4437075  
B: 17 523848 4436973  
C: 17 523694 4436743  
D: 17 523451 4436799

#### Disclaimer:

The West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office Interactive Map is designed to provide professional consultants, state/federal agency employees and the public with a means to make informed decisions with regards to the cultural resource location.



# Mt. Woods Cemetery, Ohio County, WV



**Coordinate System:** WGS 1984 Web Mercator (Auxiliary Sphere)

Map Created on 7/15/2013

**Architectural**

- Point
- Area

**National Register**

- Point
- Area

**User Notes:**

USGS 7.5' topographic quadrangles: Wheeling  
 A - Lat: 40.083497 Long: 80.725129  
 B - Lat: 40.082962 Long: 80.719627  
 C - Lat: 40.080302 Long: 80.722331  
 D - Lat: 40.081587 Long: 80.725081

**Disclaimer:**

The West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office Interactive Map is designed to provide professional consultants, state/federal agency employees and the public with a means to make informed decisions with regards to the cultural resource location.

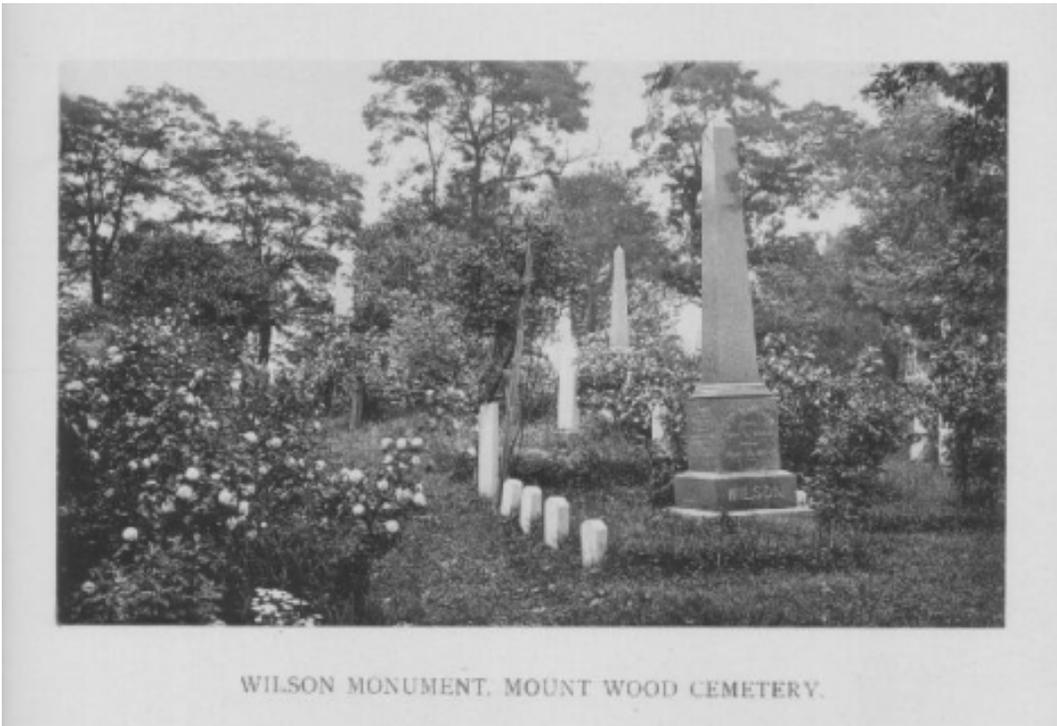


1 of 41  
Historic Photo, Wise Monument, looking  
North-Northeast



WISE MONUMENT. MOUNT WOOD CEMETERY.

2 of 41  
Historic Photo, Wilson Monument, looking  
Northeast



WILSON MONUMENT. MOUNT WOOD CEMETERY.



HENRY K. LIST'S VAULT, MOUNT WOOD CEMETERY.

3 of 41

Historic Photo, List Mausoleums, looking Southwest

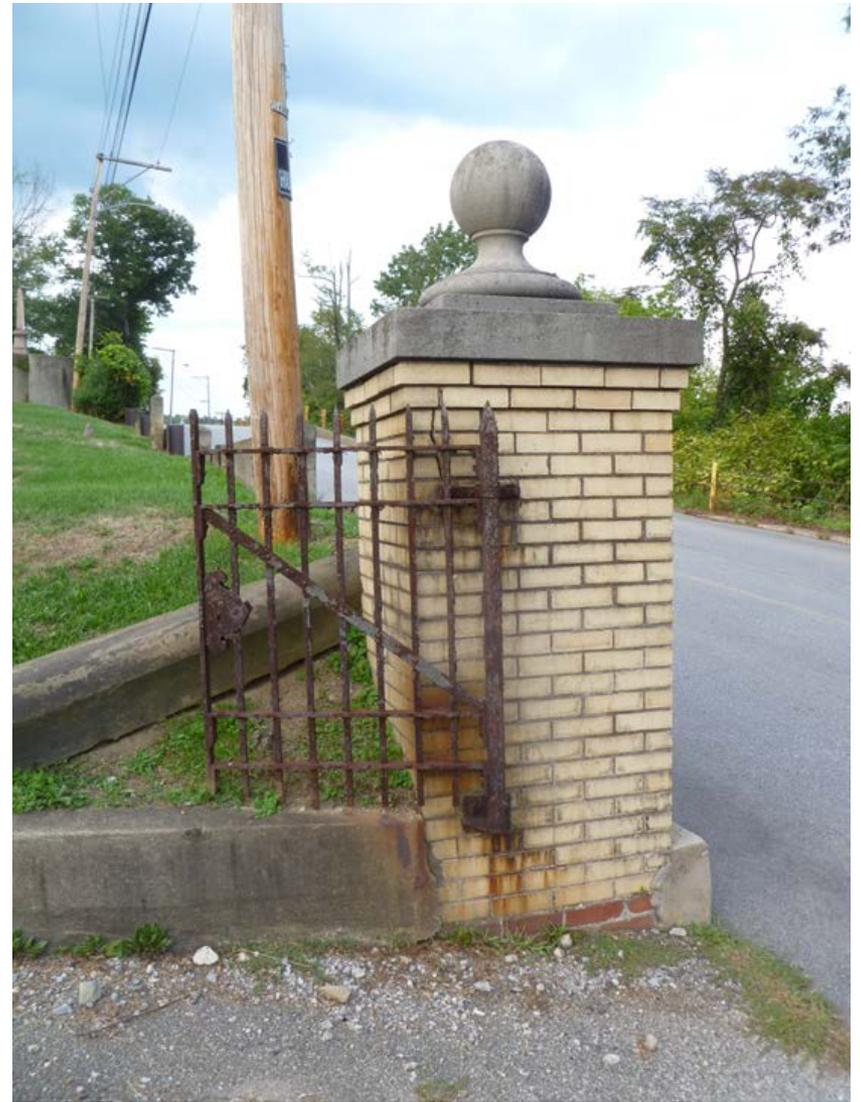


4 of 41

Entrance Gate, looking North-Northwest



5 of 41  
South Pillar of Entrance Gate, looking South-southwest



6 of 41  
North Pillar of Entrance Gate, looking East



7 of 41  
Plaque on Entrance Gate Pillar, looking North



8 of 41  
Ironwork on Gate, on North  
Pillar, looking North



9 of 41  
Forbes Mausoleum, Section I, looking North-Northeast



10 of 41  
Scott Mausoleum, Section I,  
looking North-Northwest



11 of 41  
Pracht Mausoleum, Section B,  
looking East-Southeast



12 of 41  
Cotts Mausoleum, Section B, looking  
North-Northeast



13 of 41  
Hobbs Mausoleum, Section B, looking North-Northeast



14 of 41  
Bishop/Robb Mausoleum, Section G, looking West



15 of 41  
Fleming and Bradford Mausoleums, Section B, looking East



16 of 41  
List Mausoleums, Section A, looking South



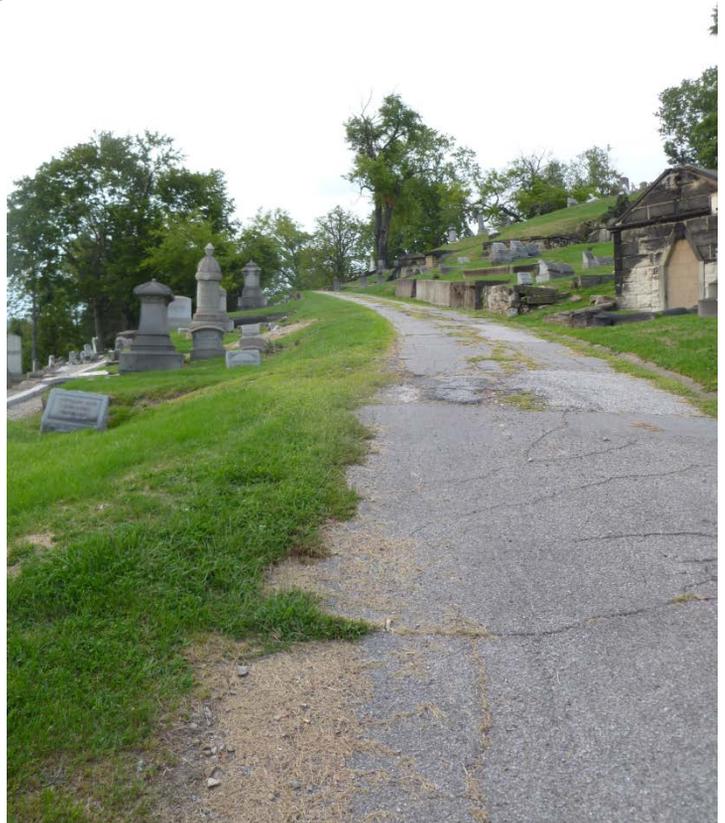
17 of 41  
Rosenberg Arch, Section G, looking North



18 of 41  
View from inside entrance gate looking North



19 of 41  
Main Road and Section H, looking North-Northwest



20 of 41  
Main Road from gate, looking  
North-Northwest



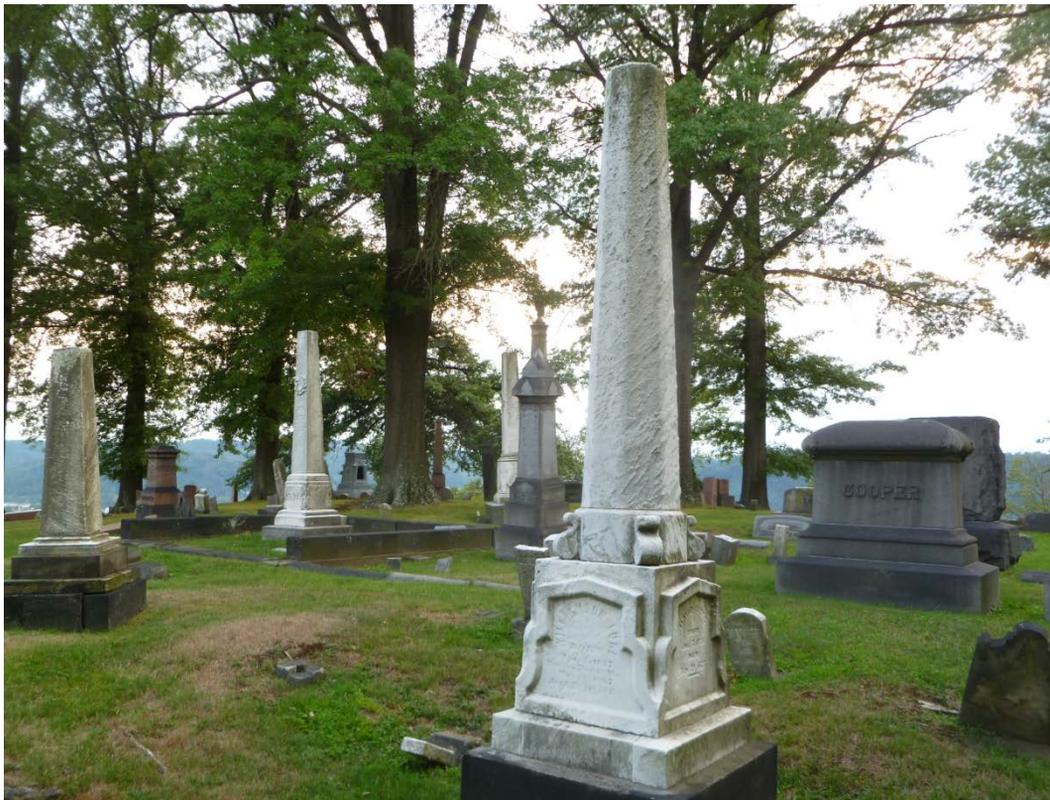
21 of 41  
Section C, looking East

22 of 41  
Section A, looking East-Southeast

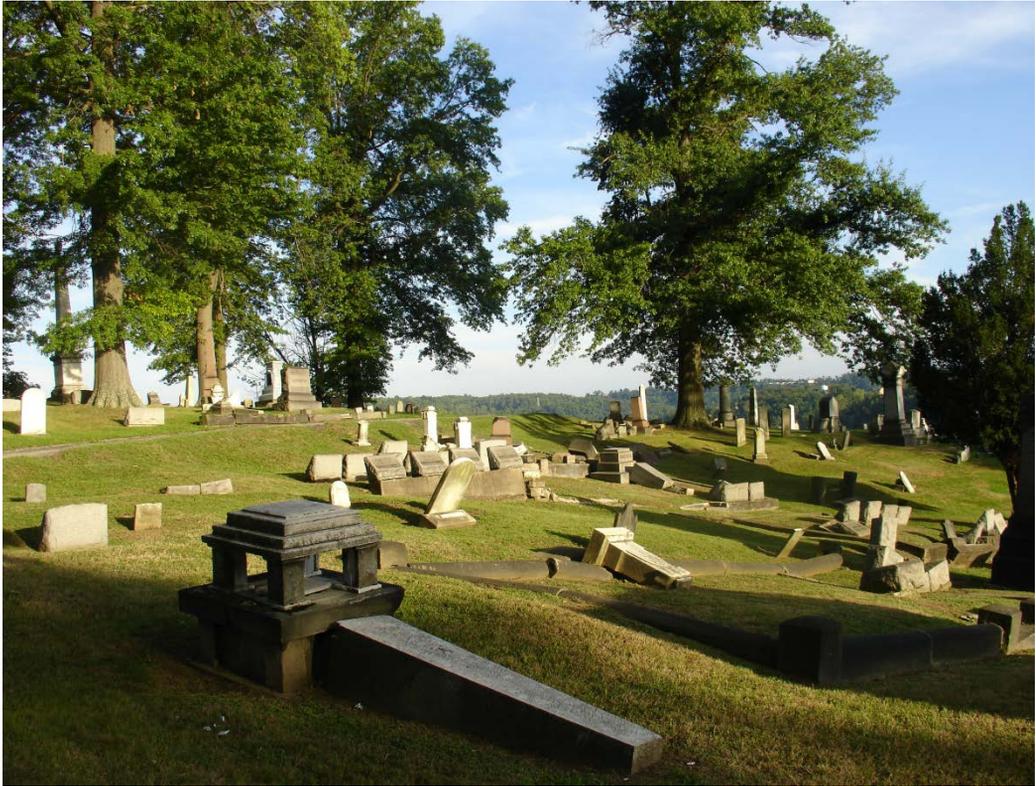




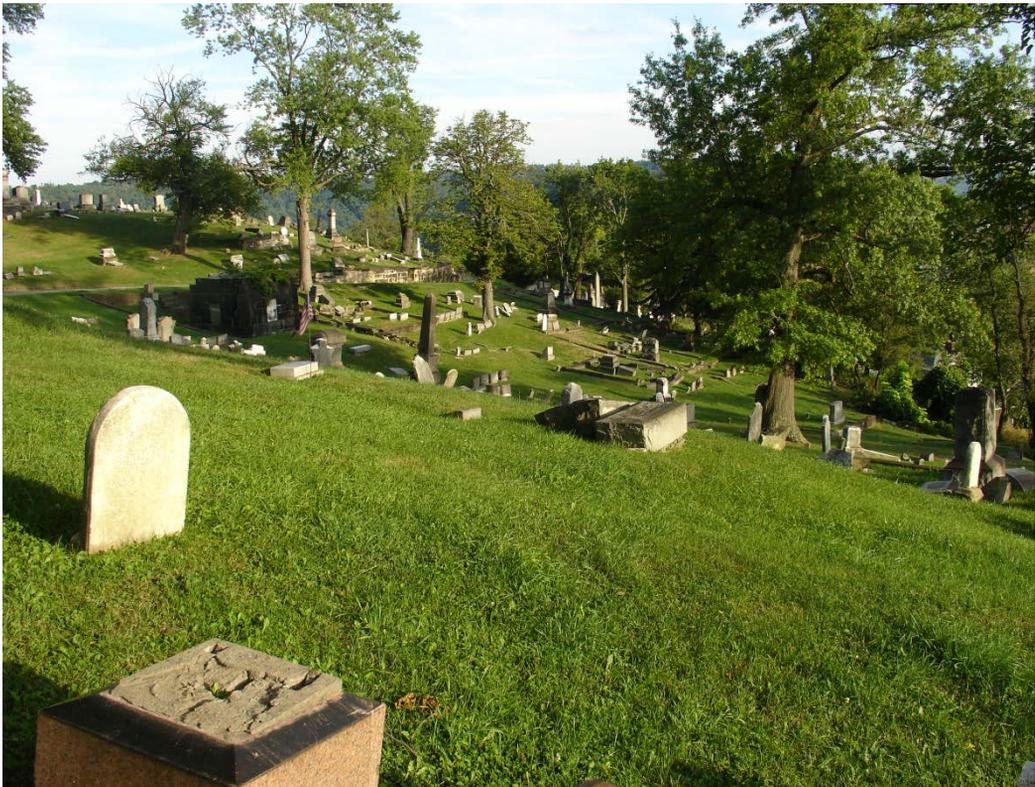
23 of 41  
View from Section A, looking South



24 of 41  
From Section H near Section A, looking South



25 of 41  
Section E from Main Road, looking West



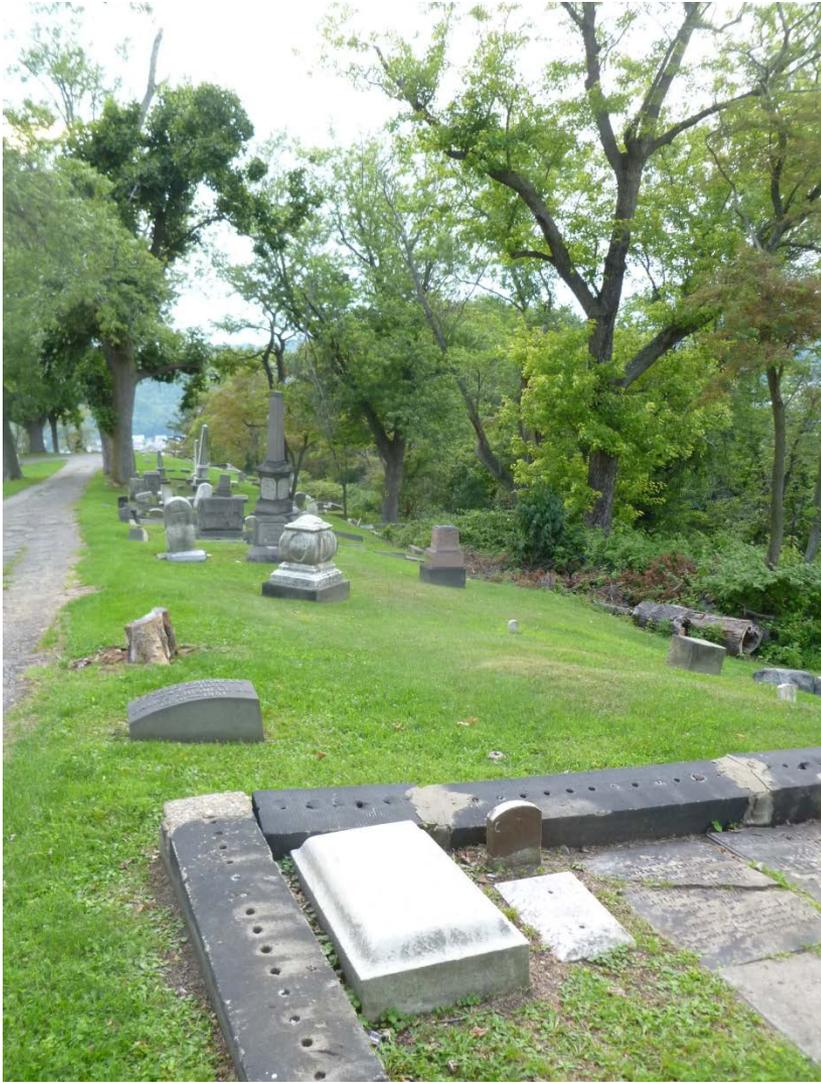
26 of 41  
Section H, looking South



27 of 41  
Section F and G, looking East



28 of 41  
Section C, looking Northeast



29 of 41  
Section H, looking South



30 of 41  
George P. Wilson Monument, looking South



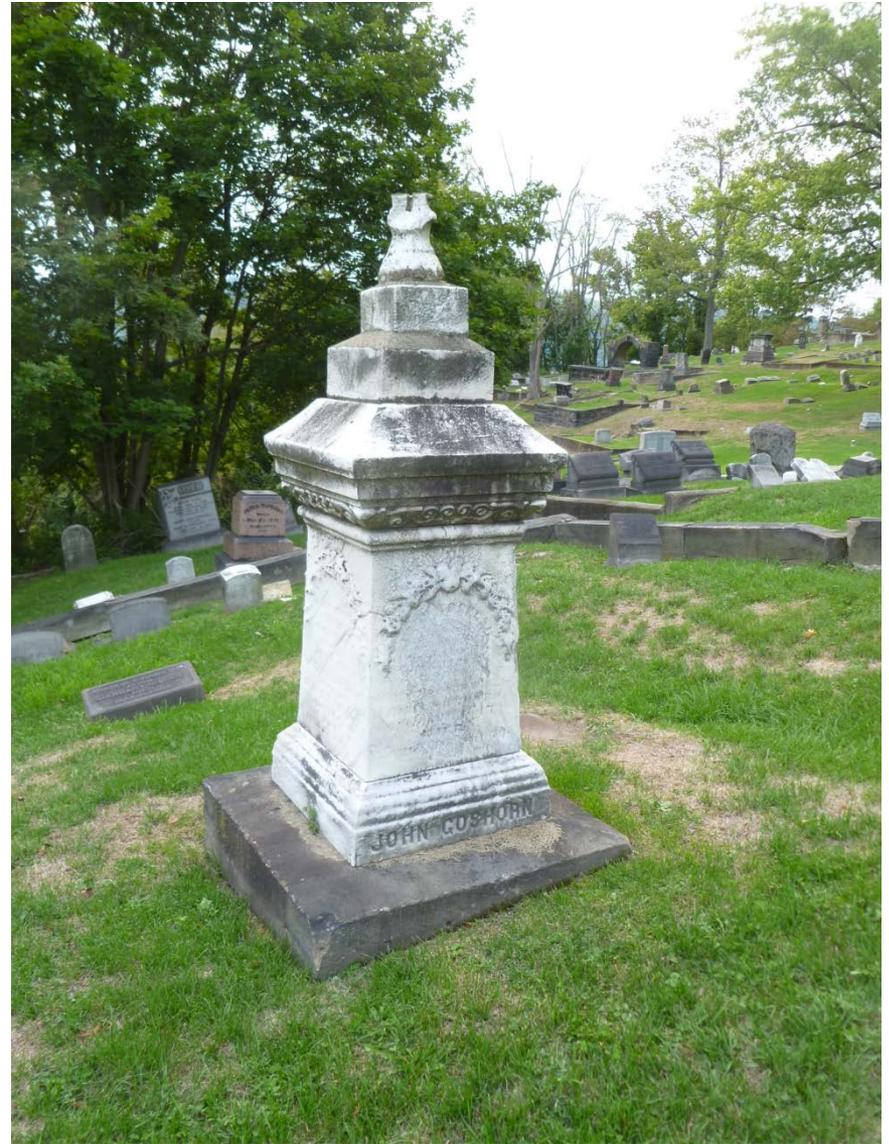
31 of 41  
Alfred Caldwell Monument, Section A, looking Southeast



32 of 41  
John McLure Jr. White Bronze Monument, Section A,  
looking Northwest



33 of 41  
Noah Linsly Obelisk, Section C, looking South



34 of 41  
Goshorn Family Monument, Section H, looking North



35 of 41  
Simon P. Hullihen, Section A, looking North



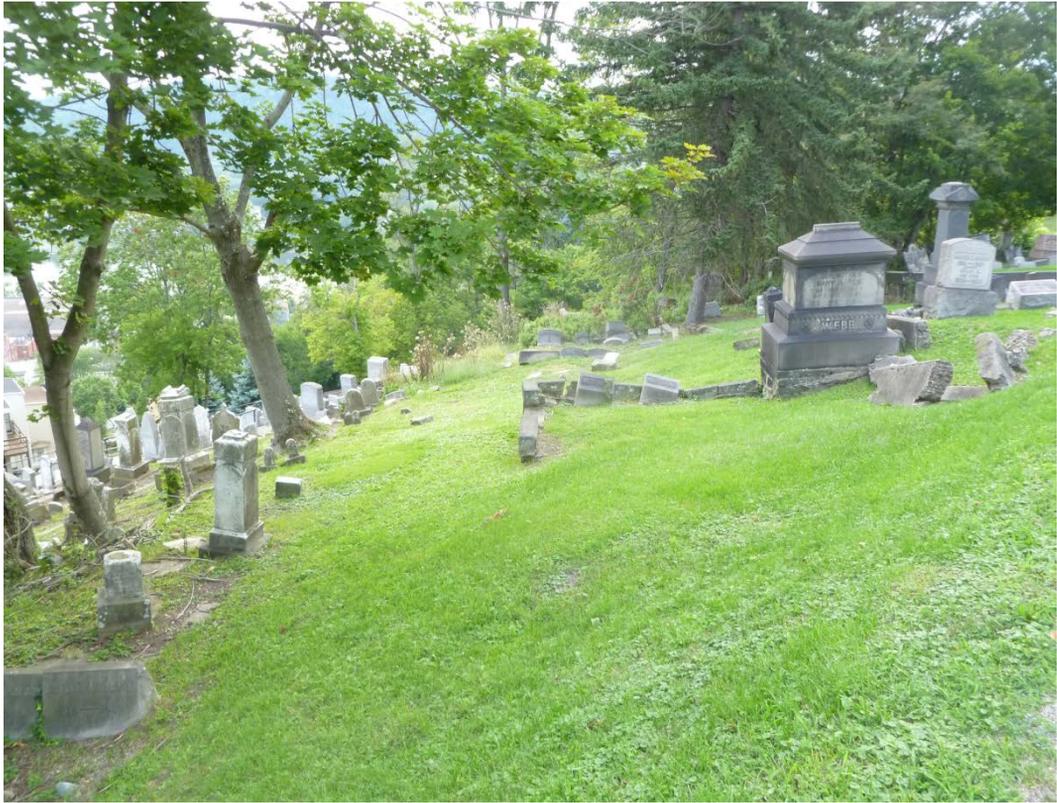
36 of 41  
Woods Family Graves, Section G, looking West



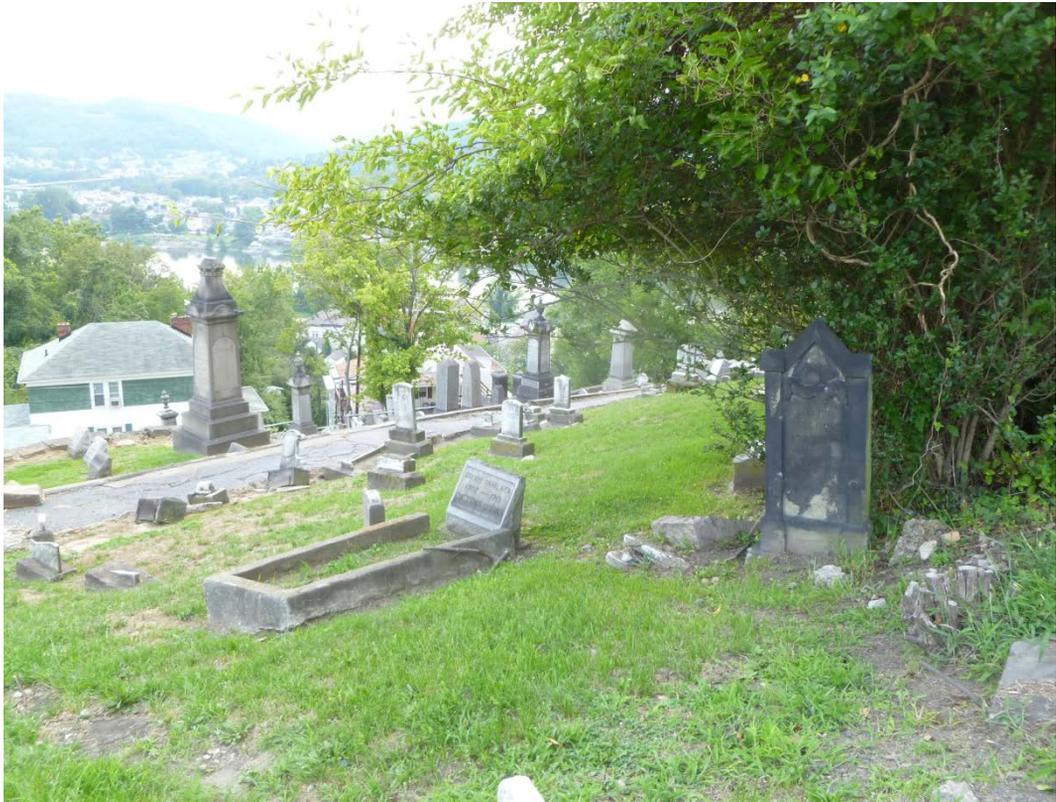
37 of 41  
Dr. Thomas Townsend Monument,  
Section D, looking North



38 of 41  
Jewish Section Wall & Gate,  
looking North-Northwest



39 of 41  
Jewish Section, looking Northwest



40 of 41  
Jewish Section, looking West



41 of 41  
Jewish Section, looking West