ODD FELLOWS' REST CEMETERY
5055 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA 70119

Final Practicum Report
Teutonia Lodge Society Tomb HABS Report
Existing Conditions Assessment

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A special thank you to all of my classmates/friends, professors and to my family for their unwavering and continuous support, both intellectual and emotional.

Thanks are also due to Emily Ford, of Oak and Laurel LLC, and Heather Veneziano – both of whom helped me when I truly needed it.

INTRODUCTION

This practicum report aims to address the common theme of lack of cemetery management in the city of New Orleans by observations, analysis, and assessment of Odd Fellows' Rest Cemetery, a historic cemetery located in New Orleans. A specific society tomb, Teutonia Lodge (its historical name, now known as Southwestern Lodge No. 40), will be documented in a report, similar to a HABS Report, complete with drawings, historic research and narrative, and photographs. This goal of this is to supply a comprehensive understanding of this structure in both its historic and architectural context. A survey of Odd Fellows' Rest will also be completed, including a scope of work of the ongoing preservation project, documentation of tomb types and current conditions, and recommendations/prioritizations for tomb reconstruction projects. This report in its entirety will supplement any and all existing documentation of Odd Fellows' Rest.

Odd Fellows' Rest is an interesting case study for this report. It is small - about 4700 square feet, over 200 free-standing tombs and 600 wall vaults. It is not open to the public. It is also an exemplar for the historic New Orleans cemeteries, as it has been in a state of neglect and dilapidation for decades - similar to other historic cemeteries. Odd Fellows' Rest represents the trends of cemetery mismanagement, family neglect, and indifference that occurred after the second World War and the decline in popularity of benevolent societies and has continued to this day. These trends have also resulted in the increase of cemetery vandalism and looting (also a direct result of tourism and using cemeteries as a tourist attraction). While some dilapidation and patina can be charming and attractive – depending on personal taste and philosophy – many of the tombs in Odd Fellows' Rest, and all historic cemeteries, are beyond that point and pose a serious threat of collapsing – which has already occurred in some instances. Using this small and unique cemetery as a representation of the other dilapidated historic cemeteries will show how important it is that the repair and rehabilitation of these sacred spaces is necessary.

New Orleans cemeteries are, as many tourists and New Orleanians know, quite unique for their aboveground graves. In most other United States cities, these aboveground tombs – or mausoleums – are reserved

for the wealthy. However, Savannah, GA and Charleston, SC are also known for having aboveground tombs in their cemeteries. This tradition is due to multiple reasons. While using these tomb types can be traced back to Ancient Greek and Roman times, these three cities were early European colonies of England, Spain, and France. These three countries had a tradition of building aboveground tombs. Be that as it may, this outside influence is not the only factor contributing to the necessity of aboveground graves in New Orleans, Savannah, and Charleston. The subtropical climate results in extreme heat and humidity and high risk of flooding and hurricanes. These risks ultimately result in a higher risk of diseases, which can be seen in the multiple and various epidemics (Yellow Fever, Influenza, Cholera, and Malaria were the most common) that spread through each of these cities until the first quarter of the twentieth century. Furthermore, the brick tombs that were most popular in New Orleans acted as an oven, decomposing bodies very quickly.

Eventually, as is apparent in the current state of the cemeteries New Orleans (as previously mentioned), many tombs and cemeteries fell into neglect. Fortunately, in 1974 after a wall vault in the iconic St. Louis Cemetery No. 2 was threatened to be demolished, the volunteer-based non-profit Save Our Cemeteries was started.[1] St. Louis Cemetery No. 2 was consecrated in 1823 as an extension of St. Louis Cemetery No. 1, consecrated in 1789 and the oldest extant cemetery in New Orleans (the first cemetery to be built in New Orleans, St. Peter Cemetery, no longer exists). This organization is still in existence and continues to help with the mitigation of cemetery neglect, which is a largely consistent issue throughout the historic cemeteries of New Orleans. They also focus on outreach and education through walking tours, documentation, and repair of tombs.[2]

Sadly, the neglect of New Orleans cemeteries is not a new trend. An observer in 1851 said this about the tombs in St. Louis Cemetery No. 1 (which was barely sixty years old at that time): “Many are old and crumbling, and dyed with green moisture.”[3] Even earlier, a New Orleans reporter noted the following about the condition of St. Louis Cemetery No. 2: “Our attention has been called to the dilapidated state of a portion of the vaults . . We were [shocked] at witnessing the manner in which the northern wall . . . [has] crumbled and falle

1 Leonard V. Huber, Peggy McDowell, Mary Louise Christovich. “New Orleans Architecture Volume III: The Cemeteries.” Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA, 2004, p. 10.

2 Save Our Cemeteries, “Mission Statement,” https://www.saveourcemeteries.org/who-we-are/mission.html

3 A. Oakley Hall, “The Manhattaner in New Orleans; or, Phases of Crescent City Life,” J. S. Redfield and Clinton Hall, 1851, p. 109.

down without apparently an effort on the part of those whose duty it is to have it repaired."[4]

The resilience of these cemeteries must be noted in a report of this kind, as these cemeteries have survived intense hurricanes and storms in addition to the neglect and vandalism already discussed. Despite these factors, the appearance and [some] character defining features have remained. Due to this, cemeteries are now being seen as cultural and historic landscapes. In New Orleans, this is in part due to the uniqueness of the cemeteries – they are attractive tourist destinations, as well as beautiful architectural and educational resources. It is my hope that this report will help to increase this feeling not only at Odd Fellows' Rest, but at all of the historic New Orleans cemeteries. This will result in the better management, mitigation, and repair of tombs and cemeteries throughout the city.

4 "Commentary," New Orleans Daily Picayune, September 1, 1844.

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HISTORY OF ODD FELLOWS' REST CEMETERY

Odd Fellows' Rest (OFR) is a cemetery in the Mid-City neighborhood of New Orleans, LA, at the corner of Canal Street and City Park Avenue (formerly Metairie Road), wedged next to St. Patrick Cemetery No. 2 and City Park Avenue, at the border of the Mid-City Historic District. The triangular lot was bought by the International Order of the Odd Fellows' (IOOF), a secret benevolent society that gained popularity in New Orleans in the 1840s, in 1847.[1] In the immediate years that followed said purchase, the site grew slightly bigger due to donations of land by various members of the society. It was designed to accommodate IOOF members and their families.[2]

The IOOF was founded in Britain in the 1700s and came to New Orleans by way of Baltimore in 1833, when a local lodge was established.[3] The IOOF was known for their inclusionary practices and progressiveness compared to other fraternal organizations.[4] The goal of the Odd Fellows was to give aid by helping widows and orphans with assistance programs, construct Odd Fellows' Halls buildings as meeting spaces, and eventually create cemeteries for members and their families. One of the mottos of the Odd Fellows is "Friendship, Love, and Truth."[5]

In New Orleans, many members of the IOOF were German immigrants. German immigration increased in New Orleans in the 1840s, bringing commerce and trade to the city. Benevolent societies, such as the Odd Fellows', helped immigrants assimilate into New Orleans society until, eventually, they became more of a social activity once the German immigrants became more and more established.[6] This is the case for many of the immigrants that came into New Orleans during the 1800s.

There was a dedication ceremony of OFR in New Orleans on February 26, 1849 that was

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1 Leonard V. Huber, Peggy McDowell, Mary Louise Christovich. "New Orleans Architecture Volume III: The Cemeteries." Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA, 2004, p. 34.

2 Peter B. Dedek. "Cemeteries of New Orleans: A Cultural History." Louisiana State University Press, Baton, Rouge, LA, 2017, p. 112.

3 Huber, et al, p. 34.

4 Ellen C. Merrill. "Germans of Louisiana." Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA, 2005, p. 253.

5 International Order of the Odd Fellows. "History of American Odd Fellowship." https://odd-fellows.org/history/wildeys-odd-fellowship/

6 The Historic New Orleans Collection. "19th Century Immigration, Benevolent Organizations, and Churches." https://www.hnoc.org/research/19th-century-immigration-benevolent-organizations-and-churches.

Figure 1. Teutonia Lodge. New Orleans Architecture Volume III: The Cemeteries by Leonard V. Huber, Peggy McDowell, and Mary Louise Christovich, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA, 2004, p. 36.

described in detail in a newspaper article published in The Daily Crescent. The procession started at Jackson Square and weaved in and out of the French Quarter and the American Sector, going across Canal Street. Eventually, the Odd Fellows boarded carriages and omnibuses to the site of the cemetery, which was three miles away, where the procession stretched out a mile. At the front, there was a funeral car that bore a sarcophagus and carried the remains of sixteen deceased members of the organization. These remains were the first to be buried in the new cemetery.[7]

The cemetery is laid out by various walks, all of which are named after past grand masters of the Order in Louisiana. By 1852, 200 vaults had been erected and the society tomb, the Teutonia Lodge, was finished (Figure 1).[8] The wall vaults, which also served to enclose the cemetery, were finished by the 1930s, but were present in OFR since the 1860s.[9] Additionally by the 1930s, all land had been sold and built upon.[10] There are numerous tomb types in the cemetery, in a variety of different styles and materials. Tomb types include wall

7 "Consecration of Odd Fellows' Rest." The Daily Crescent. February 27, 1849, p.1.
8 Huber, et al. p. 35.
9 Ibid.
10 Ibid.

Figure 2. Three-linked chain with OFR with motto initials "FLT," from a wall vault on the City Park Avenue wall. Taken by the author, September, 2018.

vaults, coping graves, box tombs, and others. Various styles were also employed. Symbols of the IOOF are employed throughout the cemetery as iconographical decoration on tombs. Symbols include widow and child, beehive, thee all-seeing eye, three-linked chain (Figure 2), all-seeing eye of the diety, and a cornucopia, to name a few.[11] There are two formal entrances to the cemetery, one on Canal Street (Figure 3) and one on the corner of Canal Street and City Park Avenue (Figure 4). The entrance on Canal Street is the original entrance, with a cast-iron gate that has severely deteriorated. This entrance leads to the center-most pathway of the cemetery, up to the mound in the middle of OFR. The entrance on the corner is a later addition, and is in the Spanish Baroque style, with an interesting use of ceramic tiles with exposed wooden rafter tails and braces. Currently, neither of these entrances are in use.

In the 1950's there was a movement by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana to bring the cemetery into "modern" times, which was spearheaded by Armand Rodehurst, the cemetery superintendent and prominent stonecutter.[12] His job was to not only keep OFR in use, but to find new ways to sell cemetery space. Rodehurst was known as a stonecutter and for his contemporary practices in cemetery work, using primarily Portland

11 Ibid., p. 36

12 "Odd Fellows' Rest," Times-Picayune, December 6, 1950, p. 4.

Figure 3. Canal Street entrance to Odd Fellows' Rest. Taken by Morgan Whitney, 1905, Tulane University Special Collections.

Figure 4. Entrance to OFR at the corner of Canal Street and City Park Avenue. Scan from 1980 Historic Cemetery Survey, Historic New Orleans Collection.

cement, rebar and granite in intervention methods on old tombs. He did construct some new tombs. An example of his work is shown below, the Grosz coping tomb (Figures 5 and 6). In this tomb, he most likely poured the concrete on the top of the coping tomb and re-sold the burial space to a new family. He also put the original owner's tablet in front of the coping tomb, and put a new table for the new owners above the tomb. Figure 6 shows his stamp of work, or signature, in the concrete in front of the tomb. Unfortunately, he died when he was at the height of his efforts, which stalled OFR as a whole.[13]

The IOOF, as many other benevolent societies nationwide, lost popularity in New Orleans after the World Wars.[14] The last lodge in the city closed in 1979 and the cemetery eventually went into disrepair – many of the

13 "Business, Civic Leader Expires: Rodehorst Rites will be Held Today," Times-Picayune, September 16, 1958.

14 Emily Ford. "The Canal Street Cemeteries: A Landscape History, Part Five." Oak ad Laurel Cemetery Preservation, LLC. Blog post, November 11, 2017. http://www.oakandlaurel.com/blog/category/odd-fellows-rest

Figure 5. Grosz coping tomb, showing Rodehurst's intervention efforts. Taken by Eimly Ford, 2012.

Figure 6. Rodehurst's signature, in front of the Grosz coping tomb. Taken by Eimly Ford, 2012.

tomb owners and families became lost and forgotten. In the 1960s, there was a proposal by the city of New Orleans to move the cemetery due to the massive amounts of traffic at the intersection of Canal Street and City Park Avenue. This was part of a larger project that planned to connect Canal Street with Canal Boulevard (Figure 7).[15] However, after many negotiations and third-party involvement between the Grand Lodge and the city, no agreement for a relocation or sale of property was made.[16]

OFR was nominated and added to the National Register for Historic Places in 1980.[17] Cemeteries on the National Register are rare, and although many of them in New Orleans are listed, it is because of the unique architecture and the special significance that these cemeteries contribute to the culture of the city. This nomination sparked a new interest in the conditions of OFR, and after some private investment, some rehabilitation projects were started. Sadly, due to lack of local management and severe limitation of the cemetery itself, OFR once again fell into disrepair and vulnerabilities to theft and damage increased.[18]

In the 2010s, OFR was closed to the public due to various reasons. Part of the reason is because of

15 "End to Canal 'Dog-Leg' Urges," Times-Picayune, August 11, 1963, p. 1.

16 Huber, et al., p. 36.

17 R. S. Vaughn. "Research Report on Odd Fellows' Cemetery." Located in the National Register file for Odd Fellows' Cemetery, Louisiana State Historic Preservation Office, Baton Rouge, LA, 1979.

18 Michael Duplantier Sr., email message to author, July 23, 2018.

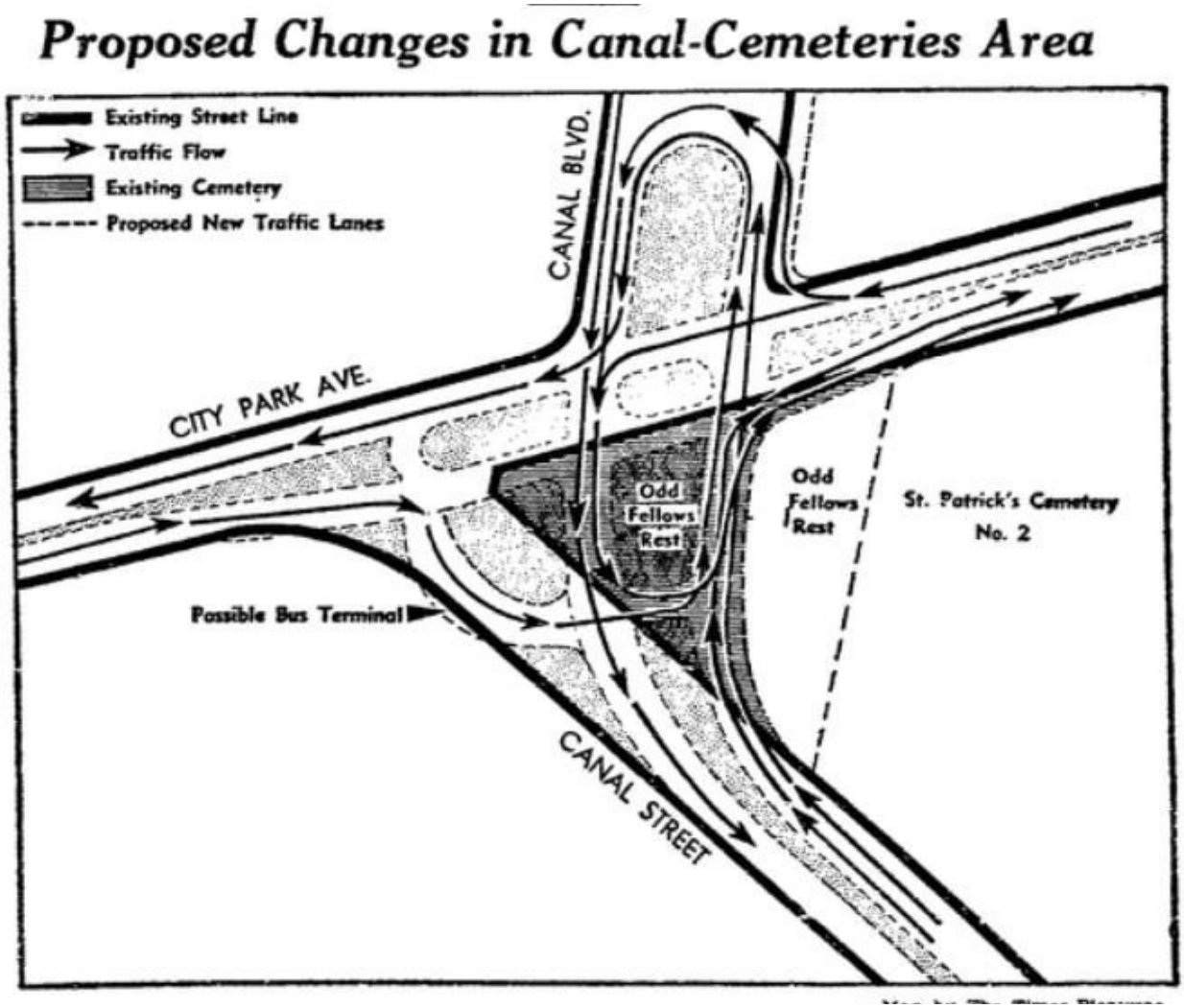


Figure 7. Proposed Changes in Canal-Cemeteries Area digram, from "End to Canal 'Dog-Leg' Urged," Times-Picayune, August 11, 1963, p. 1.

liability issues, as the deteriorated tombs posed a threat to visitors. After this, in 2013, national leaders from IOOF came to look at OFR and identified that, indeed, the cemetery was in dire need of help. By 2014, they had secured the funds necessary to provide regular and sustained day-to-day maintenance, as well as capital improvements to cemetery infrastructure. This is currently being undertaken by Michael Duplantier Sr. and Jr., with the help of various preservationists and masons from New Orleans.[19] In 2017, there was a streetcar expansion project as a part of the Regional Transit Authority, titled the Cemeteries Transit Center project. While this had limited effect on Odd Fellows Rest, it should be noted. Because of this decision by the IOOF, the future of OFR is looking brighter and more promising.

19 Ibid.

MAPS

Figure 8. Historic District Landmarks Commission Map of New Orleans with historic districts outlined. The general location of Odd Fellows' Rest is outlined in black. OFR is in the Mid-City Historic District. Courtesy of the HDLC of New Orleans.

Figure 9. Map showing Odd Fellows' Rest at the intersection of Canal St. and City Park Ave. Satellite image courtesy of Bing Maps.

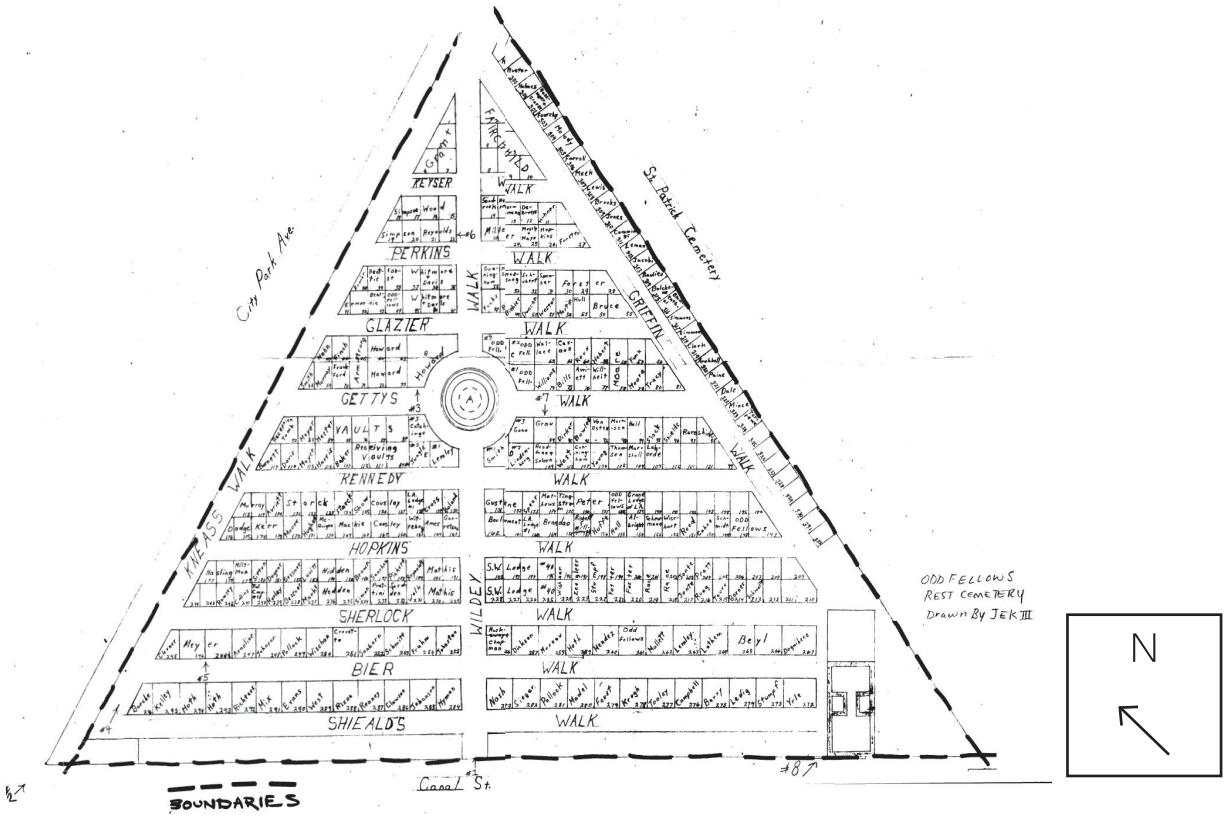


Figure 10. Layout map of Odd Fellows' Rest, outlining plots and walks of the cemetery. From the Odd Fellows' Rest National Register Nomination file, 1980, Louisiana SHPO, Baton Rouge.

PART ONE

TEUTONIA LODGE SOCIETY TOMB

SOUTHWESTERN LODGE NO. 40

HABS Report

ODD FELLOWS' REST CEMETERY
5055 CANAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA

Figure 11. Southwestern facade of Teutonia Lodge, taken by the author, July 2018.

NOTE: All photos in Part One taken by the author unless otherwise stated.

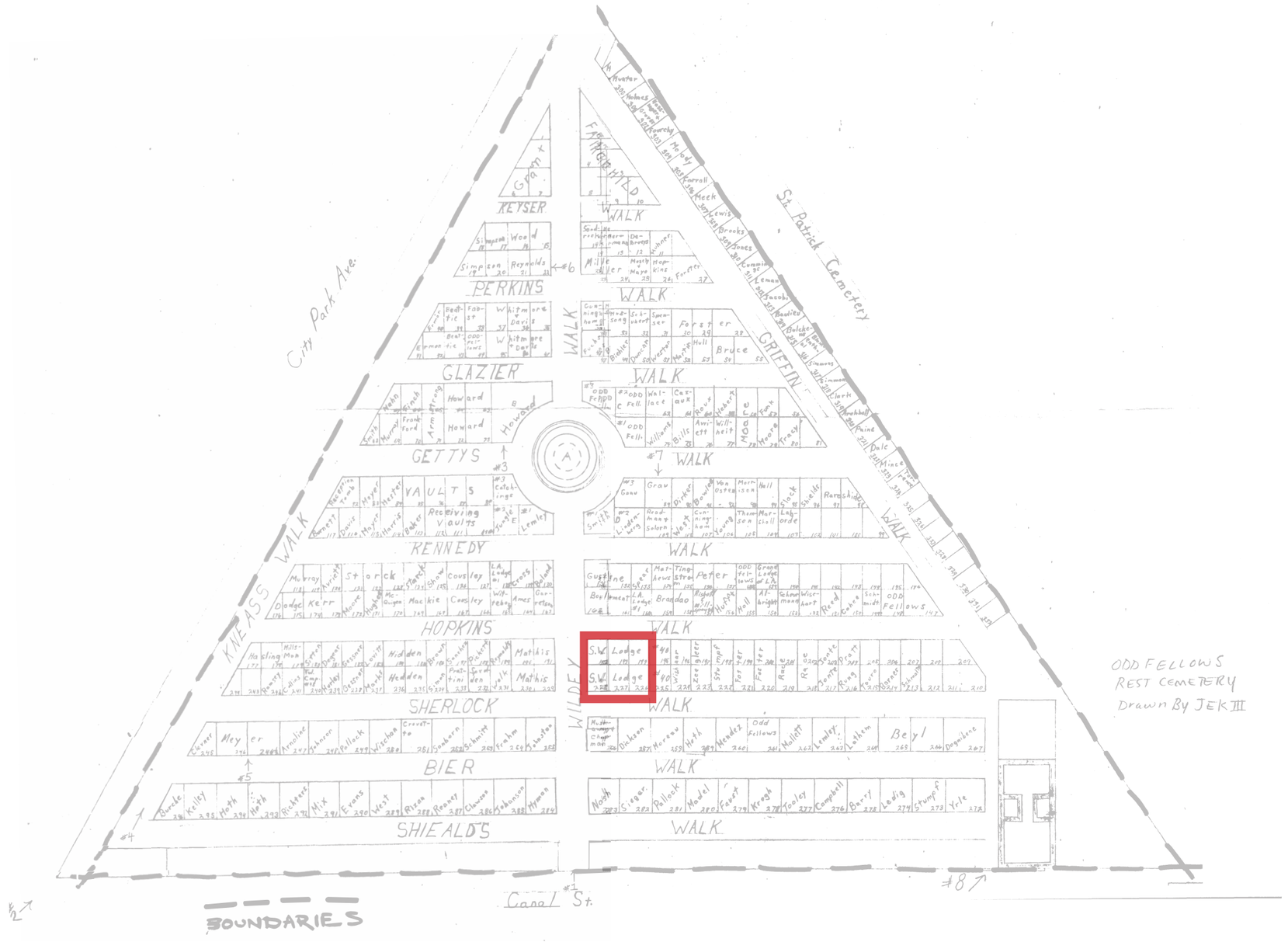


Figure 12. Layout Map of OFR with location of Teutonia Lodge is outlined in red. From the Odd Fellows' Rest National Register Nomination file, 1980, Louisiana SHPO, Baton Rouge.

HISTORY OF TEUTONIA LODGE

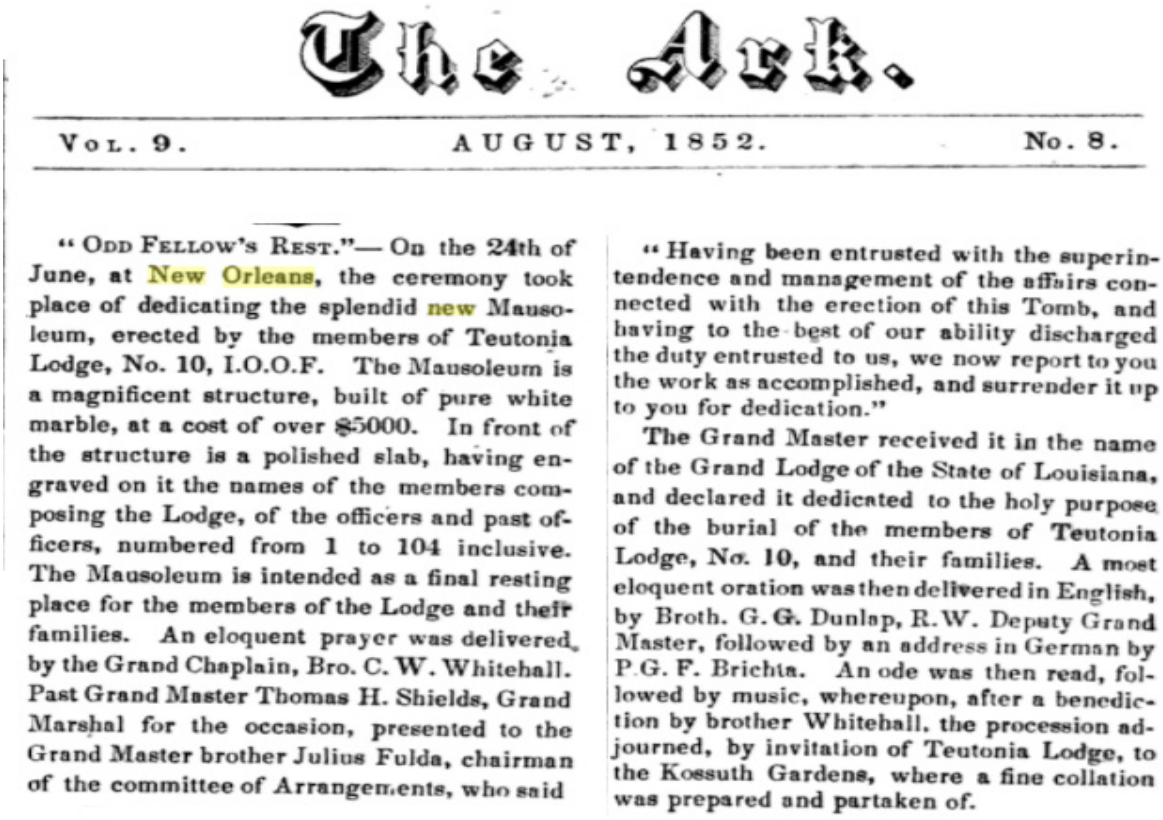
Figure 13. Marble Panel by Anthony Barret on northwest facade of Teutonia Lodge; taken by the author, July 2018.

"Teuton" - Noun. 1. Member of an ancient people, probably Germanic or Celtic.
2. Member of a people speaking language of the Germanic branch of the Indo-European language family, especially German.[1]

The Teutonia Lodge, which is now known as the Society Tomb of Southwestern Lodge No. 40, was constructed circa 1851.[2] The size and context of this tomb warrant its significance in the Odd Fellows' Rest

1 Mirriam Webster Dictionary. "Teuton." https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Teuton.

2 Leonard V. Huber, Peggy McDowell, Mary Louise Christovich. "New Orleans Architecture Volume III: The Cemeteries." Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA, 2004, p. 36.



The Ark.

VOL. 9. AUGUST, 1852. No. 8.

"ODD FELLOW'S REST."— On the 24th of June, at New Orleans, the ceremony took place of dedicating the splendid new Mausoleum, erected by the members of Teutonia Lodge, No. 10, I.O.O.F. The Mausoleum is a magnificent structure, built of pure white marble, at a cost of over $5000. In front of the structure is a polished slab, having engraved on it the names of the members composing the Lodge, of the officers and past officers, numbered from 1 to 104 inclusive. The Mausoleum is intended as a final resting place for the members of the Lodge and their families. An eloquent prayer was delivered by the Grand Chaplain, Bro. C. W. Whitehall. Past Grand Master Thomas H. Shields, Grand Marshal for the occasion, presented to the Grand Master brother Julius Fulda, chairman of the committee of Arrangements, who said

"Having been entrusted with the superintendence and management of the affairs connected with the erection of this Tomb, and having to the best of our ability discharged the duty entrusted to us, we now report to you the work as accomplished, and surrender it up to you for dedication."

The Grand Master received it in the name of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, and declared it dedicated to the holy purpose of the burial of the members of Teutonia Lodge, No. 10, and their families. A most eloquent oration was then delivered in English, by Broth. G. G. Dunlap, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, followed by an address in German by P.G. F. Brichta. An ode was then read, followed by music, whereupon, after a benediction by brother Whitehall, the procession adjourned, by invitation of Teutonia Lodge, to the Kossuth Gardens, where a fine collation was prepared and partaken of.

Figure 14. Clipping from the magazine "The Ark and Odd Fellows' Magazine," vol. 9, no. 8., August 1852.

Cemetery. In June of 1852, a consecration of the Lodge took place (Figure 14).[3] The intent of the 48-vault tomb is to be "the final resting place for the members of the [Teutonia] Lodge and their families."[4] During this time, society tombs were becoming more and more popular as these tomb types "provided a respectable, aboveground burial for individuals from a variety of ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds who did not have access to a family tomb and could not afford their own private oven vault."[5] However, in 1853, when Yellow Fever struck the city, many victims of the disease were buried in this tomb, which was a common practice amongst cemeteries at this time.[6] At some point in the 1950s, the remains of the Yellow Fever victims were removed and the vaults were re-sold. Many of the dates on the vaults show this, as they are mainly in the 1950s and 1960s - some inscriptions are even as late as the 1980s. Teutonia Lodge consisted of mainly German immigrant members. Throughout IOOF, different lodges were constantly merging, making it almost impossible to know when the Teutonia Lodge became the Southwestern Lodge, consequently changing the name

3 The Ark and Odd Fellows' Magazine, volume 9, number 8, published August 1852.

4 Ibid.

5 Peter B. Dedek, "Cemeteries of New Orleans: A Cultural History." Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, LA, 2017, p. 89.

6 Ibid., p. 92.

of the Teutonia Lodge society tomb.

German immigration to Louisiana greatly increased in the 1840s and continued to the turn of the century, bringing commerce and trade to New Orleans.[7] The economy of New Orleans also boomed during this time period, partly due to some of the economic partnerships formed by the presence of Germans in the city. In order to create their own community, many benevolent organizations were created (mainly after the Civil War) for the sole purpose of helping to "assist newcomers."[8] These societies also helped to create a sense of place and community for immigrants, while also providing socialization opportunities with people of similar backgrounds and interests. Membership in these societies also promised a respectable burial, whether that be in a society tomb or a family tomb. Eventually, these benevolent societies became social activities for these immigrants as the number of German-owned businesses increased.[9]

The tomb itself is somewhat reminiscent of an Italian loggia and is constructed using white marble. However, the tomb cannot necessarily be categorized into a certain style – it is somewhat style-less and modest, following the architectural philosophy of "form follows function." This is a commonality throughout many New Orleans cemeteries and many society tombs. These tombs emphasize function over style, and while the Teutonia Lodge society tomb is monumental, it is quite modest. Anthony Barrett, a marble worker, created a beautiful sculpted relief on a marble panel on the primary façade of the tomb (see Figure 13 on p. 12). This relief employs many IOOF symbols. Below this panel is a slab with the names of the past and present members of the Teutonia Lodge engraved on it. Barrett's signature is carved in many locations on the tomb (Figure 15). Barrett is a well-known sculptor whose work is more present in the Lafayette Cemeteries of New Orleans. However, his work on the Teutonia Lodge tomb is his most impressive accomplishment.

On each side of the tomb there are six rows of four vaults (48-vaults total), most of which have inscriptions. The main decorative element on the three facades are the blind arcades. Blind arcades are a part of the masonry, are multiple arches in a row that have no actual openings, and are applied to the surface of

7 Ellen C. Merrill. "Germans of Louisiana." Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA, 2005, p. 253, 268.

8 The Historic New Orleans Collection. "19th Century Immigration, Benevolent Organizations, and Churches." https://www.hnoc.org/research/19th-century-immigration-benevolent-organizations-and-churches.

9 Ibid.

Figure 15. Signature of Anthony Barret on northeast facade of Teutonia Lodge.

a wall as a decorative element. These blind arcades are framed by inverted torches, which are employed as an elemental motif. The inverted torch is a symbol of death or of life extinguished, a symbol originating in Greek mythology. The tomb also has marble urns on each corner of its roof, another symbol of death.[10]

There is a German inscription on the tomb: Freundschaft und Warheit. This translates to Friendship and Truth, which is a crucial part of the IOOF motto. Due to the large amount of IOOF members with German heritage, this is not the only German inscription that can be found in the cemetery. Many of the members of the IOOF in New Orleans were of German descent, making one wonder about the connection between Germany and

10 Indiana Department of Natural Resources, "S-Z Cemetery Symbolism," Historic Preservation and Archaeology, https://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/3750.htm

Figure 16. Photograph showing Canal Street entrance to OFR with cypress tree and Teutonia Lodge in the background. Taken by Morgan Whitney, 1905, Tulane University Special Collections.

the style choices in OFR.

In 1905, there was a cypress tree near the Teutonia Lodge (Figure 16). Cypress trees are a symbol of mourning, a symbol that dates back to Greek mythology and has been used for centuries in cemeteries, mostly in Europe but occasionally in the United States as well. This symbolism is associated with death and mourning because of its failure to regenerate when cut back too severely.[11] These trees are also known as 'the mournful tree,' and would be planted close to graves and through cemeteries.[12] The use of these trees in OFR creates a link to the ideals and ideologies of these ancient cemeteries.

After some exploration, the construction of the monumental tomb is most likely similar to the wall vaults that surround the cemetery. There are double brick walls with lime mortar, as well as brick partitions between each set of crypts and slabs of flagstone laid horizontally in between the crypts. The roof of the tomb is extremely problematic as, at one point, it had been cemented over – at least three inches of cement thick. This was probably sometime in the late 1950s or early 1960s and under the supervision of Armand Rodehurst. Although the cement has had adverse affects, Rodehurst most likely thought he was doing the right thing and was helping fix problems with the building system. In reality, when this was project was completed, the drainage system was covered, allowing water to be trapped in the building system even worse than it had been before. A drainage system was originally a part of the system, evidenced by the two pipes that are visible on the bottom

11 Symbols Project, "Cypress Tree," Symbols: Stories of Cultural Life, https://symbolsproject.eu/explore/plants-and-vegetations/cypress-tree.aspx

12 Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Figures 17 and 18. Copper pipes on the bottom corners of the northwest facade of Teutonia Lodge.

Figure 19. Photograph showing the brick that was removed on the southwest wall of the Teutonia Lodge in an attempt to create a draining system.

corners of the primary (northwest) façade (Figures 17 and 18).

When the cement was added to the roof, a number of ties/hooks were installed in order to facilitate the stabilization of the structure. However, since the installment of these ties, many of them have failed due to the growth of various biological organisms, including plants, weeds, and trees, as well as various degrees of erosion. The presence of these ties, an attempt at stabilization, means that there was some sort of problem at the time of this addition, which was probably due to the failure of the building system within the walls. Interestingly, there seems to have been some sort of an effort to create a drainage system in the building: one brick on each corner of the rear upper façade was removed (Figure 19). This measly effort shows that at least there was some thought to the drainage system that was being covered up, although there is no way to determine who, how, or when these bricks were removed.

Also on the roof of the tomb is an interesting and mysterious element, which was originally thought to be an access point into the interior of the tomb of some sort (Figure 20). However, upon exploration, it was found that this is not the case. It seems to be an original part of the structure, but many questions arise. It was covered in cement, just as the rest of the roof was at some point – probably the 1950s or 1960s. But why is this part of the roof raised – about two feet higher than the rest of the roof? The interior of this odd structure

Figure 20. Photograph showing the raised portion of the roof of Teutonia Lodge.

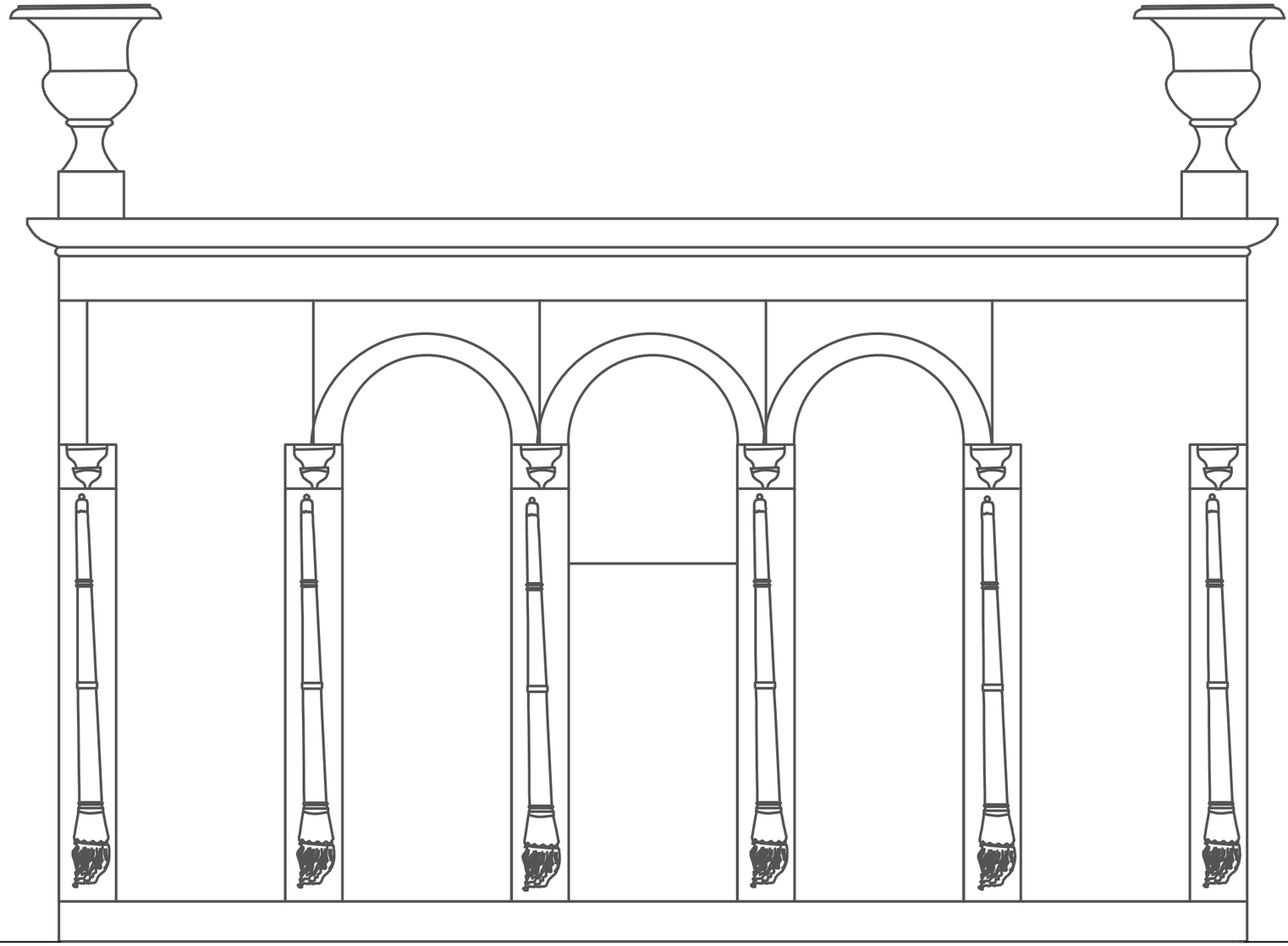
shows a cross, which is evidence of the main partition wall between the two sides of the tomb and of one of the walls that divides between the crypts. So, what is the point of this?

The most prominent source of the issues involved with this tomb is water. Water being trapped in a building system can lead to a number of other issues, many of which are occurring throughout Teutonia Lodge. This includes one of the most visible and jarring problems that the society tomb has seen in the past five years – the presence of a massive tree growing out of the southern of the tomb (Figures 21 and 22). There is also a tree growing in the southwestern wall of the building. The presence of these trees are another indication of the presence of water throughout the building. Fortunately, the tree has partially been removed from the tomb and the structure is stabilized (Figure 23). The tree seems to be recurring and requires consistent maintenance.

Figure 21. Photograph showing a tree and roots growing out of the northwestern wall/western corner of Teutonia Lodge, pre-stabilization efforts. Taken by Michael Duplantier, Sr., 2015.

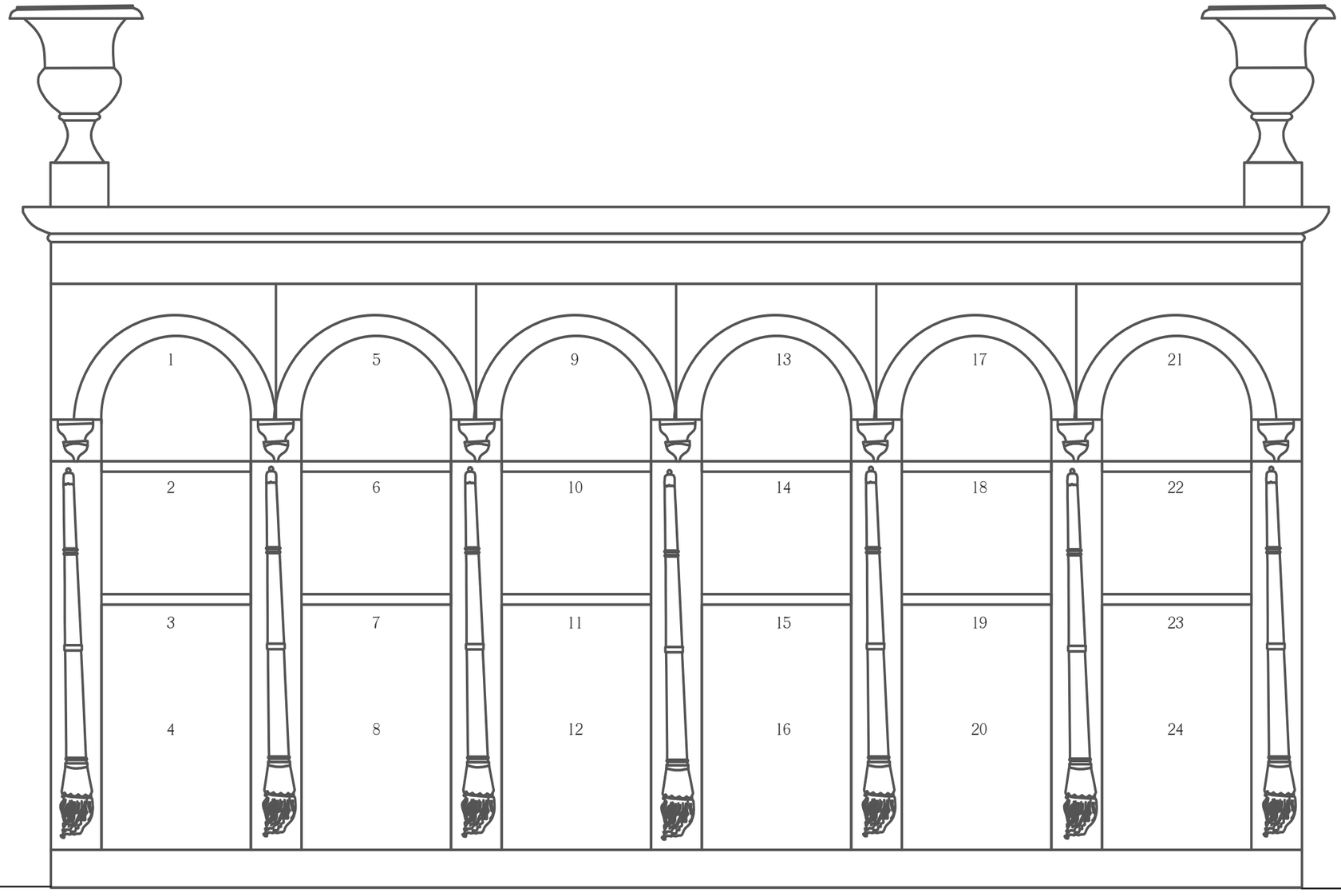
Figure 22. Northwestern facade pre-stabilization, showing the tree growing out of the southern corner of the wall. Taken by Michael Duplantier Sr., 2015.

Figure 23. Southwestern facade after stabilization and partial removal of trees. Taken by Michael Duplantier, Sr., taken May 2018.



N

A1	Northwest Facade	Teutonia Lodge Odd Fellows' Rest Cemetery 5055 Canal Street New Orleans, LA



A2

Northeast Facade

Inscriptions on the following page

Teutonia Lodge

Odd Fellows' Rest Cemetery

5055 Canal Street

New Orleans, LA

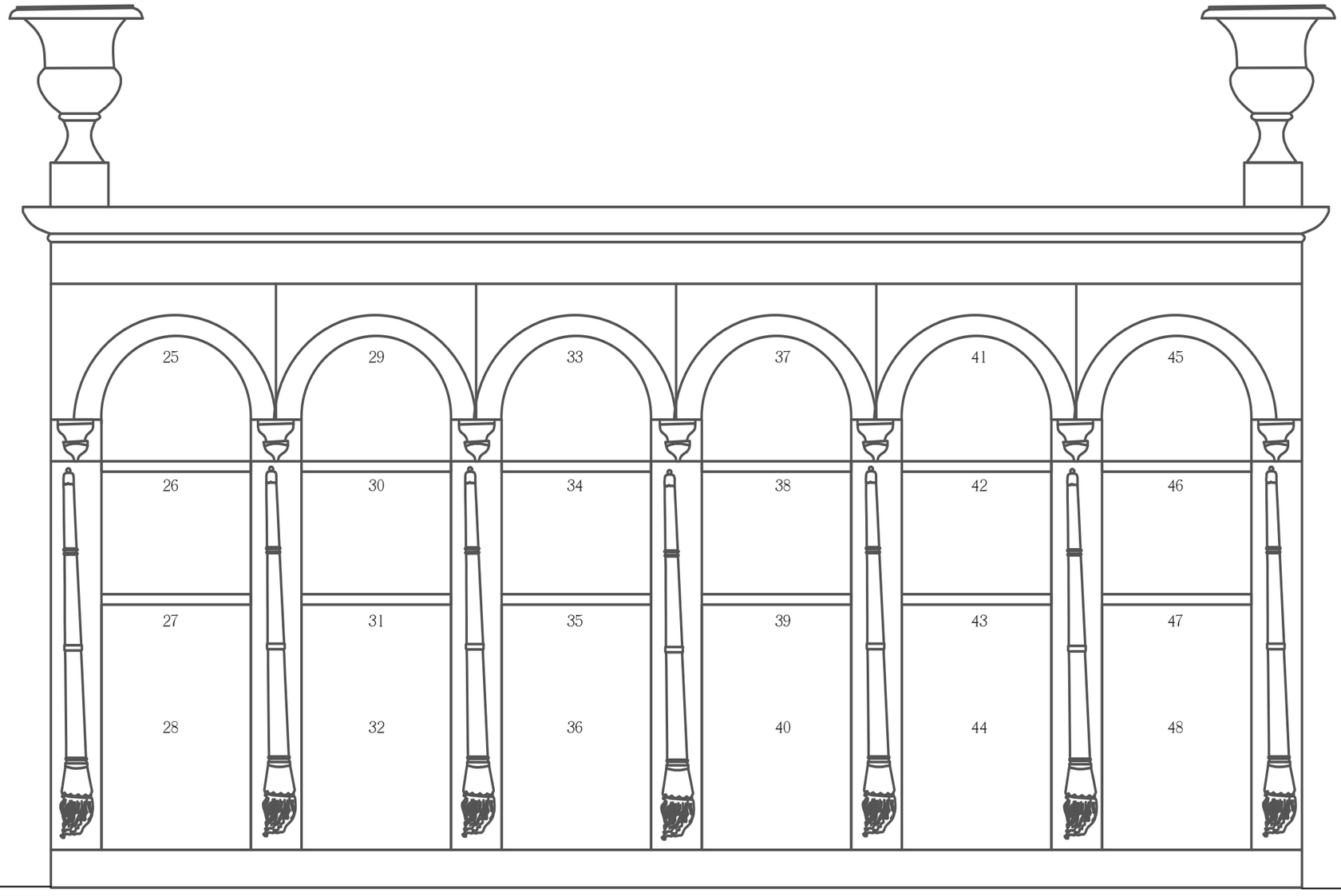
NORTHEAST FACADE - INSCRIPTIONS

1	5	9	13 JOSEPH E. ICE 1878 - 1952	17	21 JACOB KRUMMELL 1888 - 1952
2	6	10	14	18 RUFUS WILKERSON 1859 - 1943 R.I.P.	22 ESMA H. MCGAUGHY 1904 - 1952
3	7	11	15 E. C. LEWIS 1885 - 1955	19 IN MEMORY OF MY DEAR HUSBAND AND FATHER VIVIAN B. PHILLIPS NOV. 13, 1898 - OCT. 16, 1943	23 EMMA ROHRBACK WIFE OF ALBERT KEITHER DIED DEC. 16, 1950
4	8	12	16 ARTHUR B. HEBERT 1881 - 1955	20	24 ALBERT A. KEITHER HUSBAND OF EMMA ROHRBACK DIED OCT. 14, 1962

NOTE:

The following vaults are too deteriorated for inscriptions to be legible: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 14, 17, 20

The front marble tablet is missing from the following vaults: 7, 8, 11, 12



A3

Southwest Facade

Inscriptions on the following page

Teutonia Lodge

Odd Fellows' Rest Cemetery

5055 Canal Street

New Orleans, LA

SOUTHWEST FACADE - INSCRIPTIONS

25	29	33	37	41	45 PEARL BAILEY BELOVED WIFE OF FLOYD R BAILEY 1899 - 1954
26	30 IN LOVING MEMORY OF ANNA MAE D. GREENWOOD MARCH 2, 1902 - SEPT. 8, 1986	34	38	42 ALBERT EDWARD SAYERS 1884 - 1949 EULA LYON SAYERS 1872 - 1965	46 JOSEPH CLYDE HEATH ILLINOIS CPL. ENGRS. WORLD WAR 1 BORN MAY 23, 1881 - DIED SEPTEMBER 4, 1957
27 E.L. GRAVES, SR. APR. 14, 1882 - NOV. 6, 1955	31 HENRY J. WILLIAMS AUG 4, 1893-AUG 21, 1956 ANTOINETTE M. WILLIAMS MAR 19, 1888-SEPT 13, 1970 HUBERT R. QUAKENBUSH SR. FEB 14, 1918-JAN 28, 1973 DORIS L. QUAKENBUSH NOV 3, 1925-APR 1, 1992	35 GENEVA DUNN SPURLOCK JUNE 14, 1889 - JULY 2, 1981	39	43 ISABEL P. CASTILLO JULY 8, 1883 - MAR 24, 1957	47 VIOLA M. BELSOM 1890-DIED DEC. 30, 1857 JOHN W. SCHAFFER JUNE 18, 1897 - SEPT. 22, 1982
28 ARTHUR A. ADAMS 1902 - 1956	32	36 MILTON M. SPURLOCK 1878 - 1970 MILTON L. SPURLOCK 1908 - 1982	40	44 JOHN M. WALSH DEC. 23, 1916 - MAR. 24, 1957	48

NOTE:

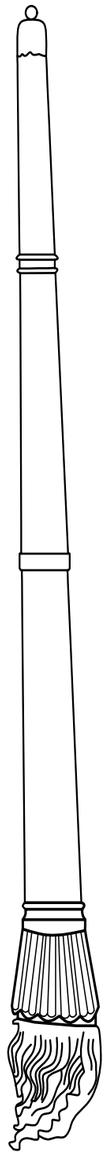
The following vaults are too deteriorated for inscriptions to be legible: 25, 26, 29, 32, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 48

This marble panel is an excellent example of Anthony Barret's sculpting skills. He is a German born sculptor, so it is fitting that a German Lodge would want him to build their society tomb. While he has built many other tombs throughout the city's cemeteries, the Teutonia Lodge - especially this marble panel - is one of his most impressive structures. Barret's sons continued his legacy and started a marble sculpting company, the Barret Bros.

The panel itself shows all of the iconography of the Odd Fellows, with the widow and children being the most prominent. Other symbols include hands clasped, the all-seeing eye, and an axe with a three-linked chain.

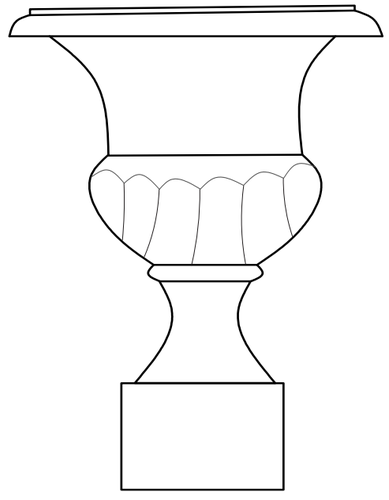
Under this marble panel is another, larger marble panel with all of the names of Officers of the Teutonia Lodge, although its level of erosion has made it difficult to read.

B1	Details of Northwest Facade Marble Panel	Teutonia Lodge Odd Fellows' Rest Cemetery 5055 Canal Street New Orleans, LA



Inverted Torch

The inverted torch is a common motif and symbol throughout cemeteries in New Orleans. It is a symbol of death, or of life extinguished. This symbol of a burning torch can be traced back to Pagan origins. During the Renaissance, the upright torch was an emblem of life and truth. Around this time is when the inverted torch became known as a symbol of death, a “memento mori.” On the Teutonia Lodge, inverted torches frame the blind arcades on the three primary facades of the tomb.[13]



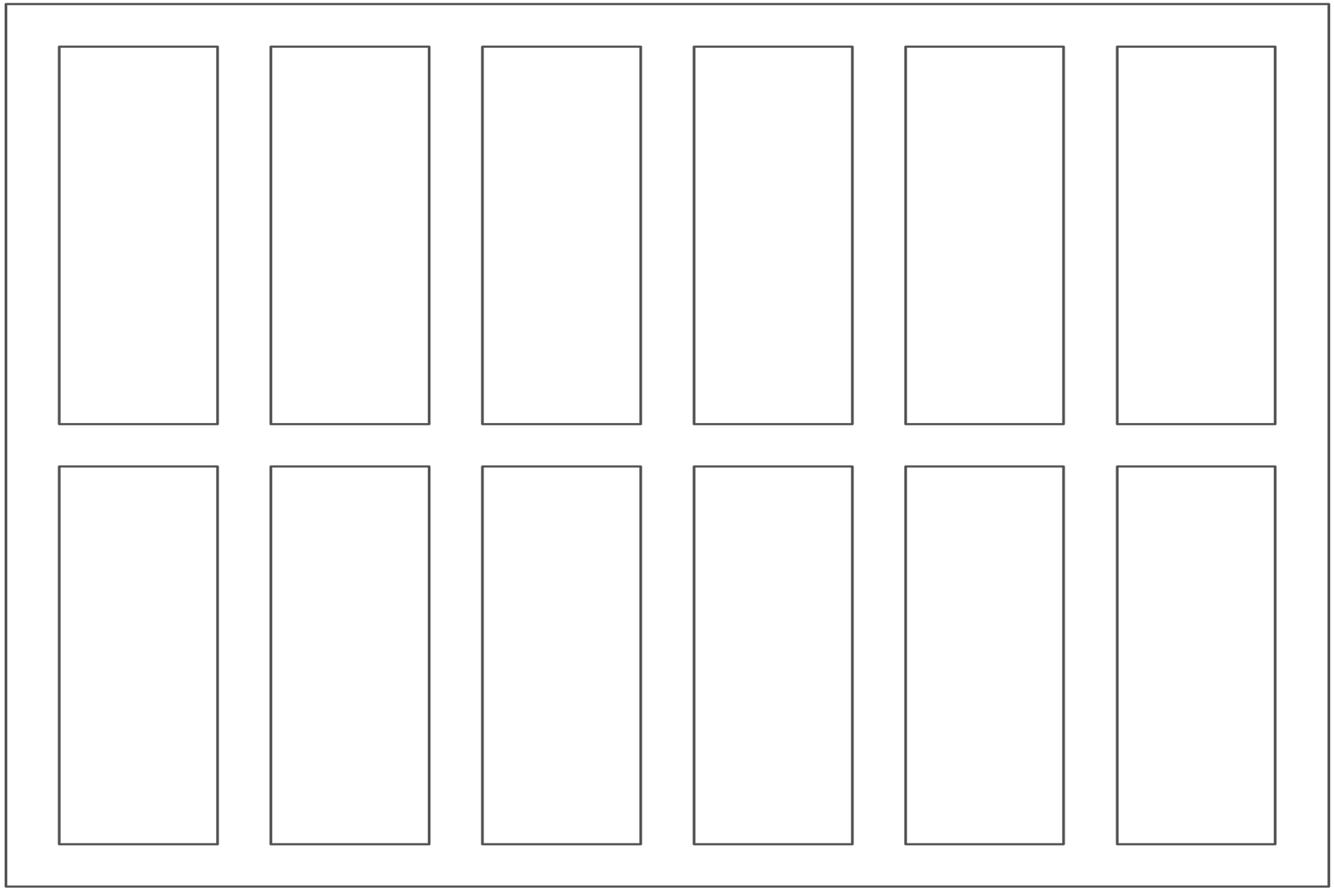
Urn

The urn is a classical symbol of death. In ancient Rome and Greece, people believed that a person’s body turns to dust and floats away. The urn symbolizes this idea as it is a vessel, a repository for ashes of the dead. These urns are on the rooftop of Teutonia Lodge, on all four corners on the structure.[14]

B2	Details of Northeast and Southwest Facade Inverted Torch Urn	Teutonia Lodge Odd Fellows’ Rest Cemetery 5055 Canal Street New Orleans, LA

13 Leonard Victor Huber, “Clasped Hands: Symbolism in New Orleans Cemeteries,” Center of Louisiana Studies, University of Southern Louisiana, Lafayette, LA, 1982, p. 79-81.

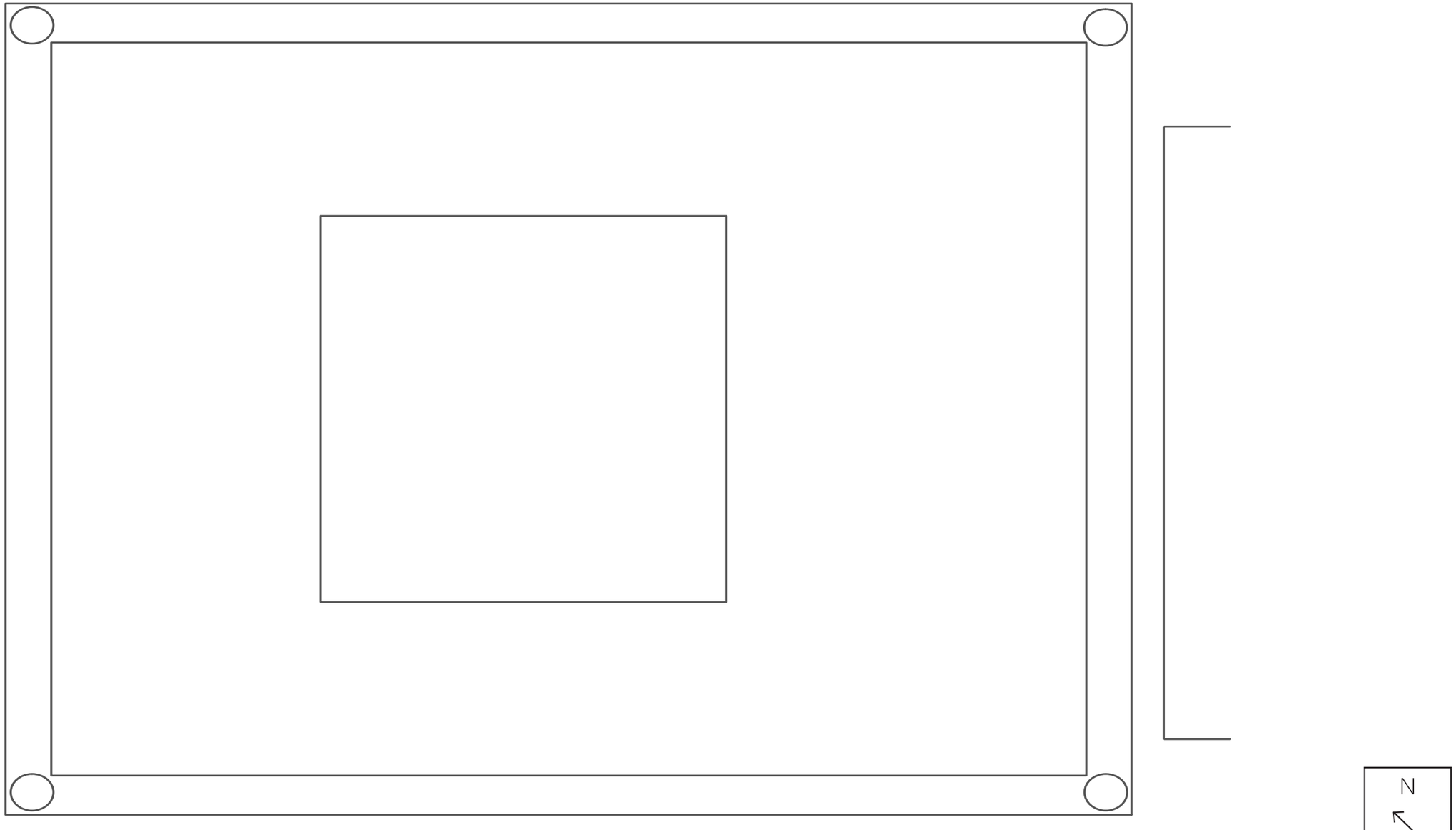
14 Ibid., p. 72.



C1

Floor Plan

Teutonia Lodge
Odd Fellows' Rest Cemetery
5055 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA



C2

Roof/Site Plan

Teutonia Lodge
Odd Fellows' Rest Cemetery
5055 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA

PHOTOGRAPHS

Figures 24 and 25. Teutonia Lodge. Top: Northeastern Facade. Bottom: Southwestern Facade. See Drawing A2, p. 22.

Figures 26 and 27. Teutonia Lodge. Northwestern Facade. See Drawing A1, p. 21.

Figure 28. Teutonia Lodge. Southeastern Facade.

Figure 29. Teutonia Lodge. Rear corner, showing southwest and southeast facade. See Drawing A2, p. 22.

Figure 30. Teutonia Lodge. Urn. Located atop all four corners of the building. See Drawing B2, p. 24.

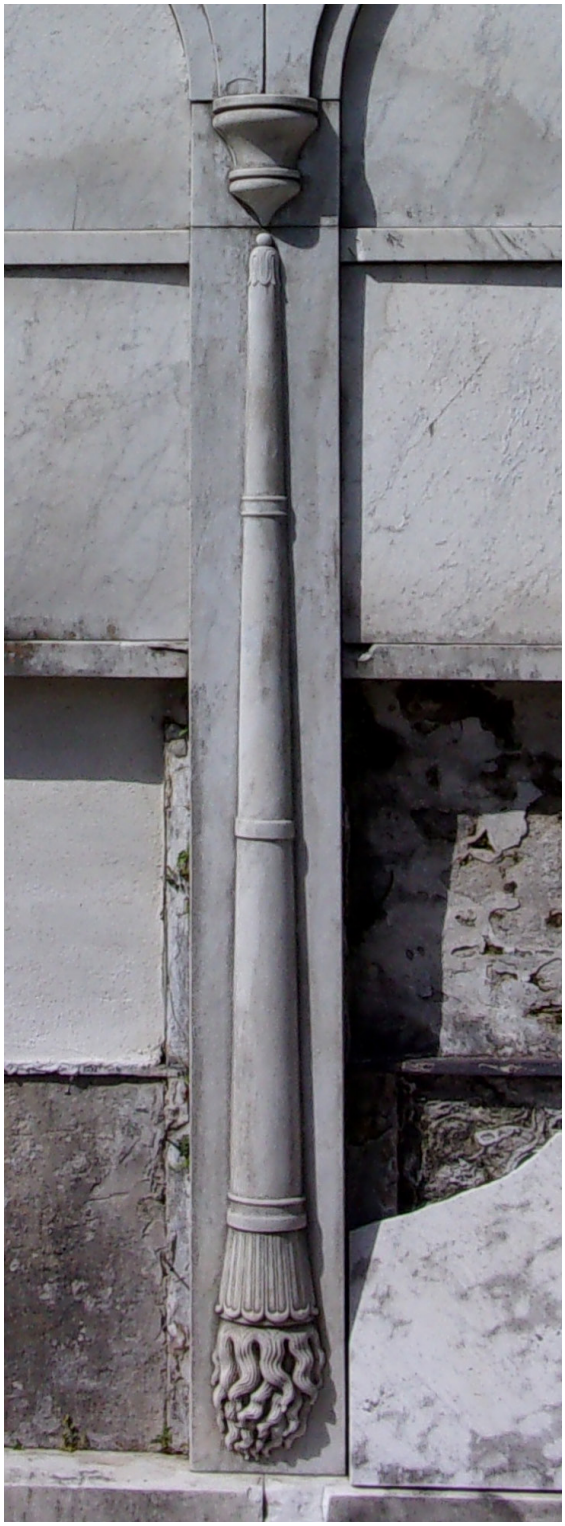


Figure 31. Teutonia Lodge. Inverted torch detail located on the three primary facades. See Drawing B2, p. 24.

Figure 32. Teutonia Lodge. Marble Panel by Anthony Barret on northwest facade of Teutonia Lodge. See Drawing B1, p. 23.

PART TWO

ODD FELLOWS' REST CEMETERY SURVEY

CURRENT PRESERVATION PROJECT
TOMB TYPE SURVEY
EXISTING CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT

Figure 33. Two tombs in OFR, both in poor condition with crumbling brick walls and biological growth from the roofs.

NOTE: All photos in Part Two taken by the author unless otherwise stated.

SCOPE OF WORK FOR CURRENT PRESERVATION PROJECT

NOTE: There are a few tombs in OFR that are cared for in perpetuity, paid for by the owner's of the tombs. While these tombs are included in the survey, they are not included as a part of the scope of work for the current preservation project. These are marked on the Existing Conditions Assessment Map on page 63. The care of these tombs is also explained on pages 77-79. It is also important to note that Michael Duplantier, who is leading the current reconstruction project, is not a preservationist.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- Total reconstruction of the Southwestern wall (Canal Street) - more than 150 linear feet. Previously, the wall and wall vaults were in an unstable condition with crumbling material and an unsightly appearance, notifying the public of the status of the forgotten cemetery. The extent of this project included the total reconstruction of the majority of the roof and part of the wall - which is apparent and visible on the exterior of the wall (Figure 34) - and cosmetic repairs of some wall vaults, in addition to the reconstruction of the

Figure 34. Photograph showing the repairs to the exterior Canal Street wall of OFR. Two cement sections are outlined in red, while the rest of the wall is constructed of brick covered in stucco, visible in the exposed patch outlined in yellow.

cornice. Some of the marble tablets on the wall vaults of both walls have fallen off, broken, or have been lost (Figure 35). With the help of local preservationists (some of whom occasionally do contracting work in the cemetery) a number of these tablets have been repaired and re-installed to the fronts of the vaults (Figure 36). All in all, these upgrades to the Canal Street wall have not only improved the appearance of the cemetery (hopefully creating a more positive view for the public to see), but have made the wall reliable. While the interior of the wall may still have some issues, the most pressing and dire repairs have been

Figure 35. Wall vaults 505 - 508, Southwestern wall.

Figure 36. Repaired wall vaults 441 - 444, Southwestern wall.

made.

- Various tombs have been repaired (Figure 37). These tombs were all reconstructed using similar materials, such as natural hydraulic lime, Portland cement, and
- Teutonia Lodge – stabilization efforts. While this tomb has major issues, as discussed in Part One of this report, there was some stabilization done due to necessity (Please see figures 21-23, pages 19 – 20). A more permanent rehabilitation plan has been created by Bayou Preservation, although no work has been completed thus far.

Figure 37. Repaired tomb with partially missing front tablet. Repaired in spring 2018.

CURRENT PROJECTS

- Marble tablets - finding, piecing together, replacing, re-installation. As previously mentioned, many marble tablets have fallen off wall vaults. This is the case for many other tombs as well (Figure 38). Unfortunately, some of the marble pieces have been lost - or at least not found yet in the cemetery. Many of the tablets are currently being treated as a puzzle (Figure 39), with the ultimate goal of getting the tablets reconstructed and back in their original place. One part of the problem is that the original tombs which these tablets were attached to are, for the most part, currently unknown. While occasionally this can be found out by research and the cross-checking of various cemetery logs, this can be a taxing and frustrating process. The

Figure 38. Tomb with fallen marble tablet, partially pieced together in front of the tomb.

Figure 39. Pieces of marble tablets, partially laid out on top of a coping grave.

location of where the tablet pieces were found can also be helpful in figuring this problem out, but that can be unreliable.

- Reconstruction of the Northern wall (City Park Avenue). Similar to the already completed project of the Southwestern wall. Currently, the focus is on the outer wall and the roof – replacing the flagstone walls to

Figure 40. Photo showing the roof and cornice removed as work continues on the Northern (City Park Ave.) wall. The tarp (left-side of photo) is necessary in order to cover the open and vulnerable spaces of the roof.

stabilize the inner wall and replace the cornice (Figure 40).

- Davis Tomb (near completion) - originally was three separate families crypts, even though they are all connected. Previously, the roof had collapsed, marble front was stained, trees and other biological growth, and the bricks were in poor condition (Figure 41). The bricks were removed from two of the walls - the rear and one of the sides - and replaced, using a natural hydraulic lime mortar. Roof, originally one large flagstone slab, was replaced with corrugated steel (Figure 42). Then poured over with three inches of concrete, a layer of brick, and a second layer of concrete (which has yet to be poured as of October of 2018). Bricks were reused when possible. The stained marble was cleaned with D2. Three marble panels will be installed on the front of the tomb. The tomb is almost completed, and should be done by the time this report is finalized (Figure 43).
- Sidewalk/Landscaping - removal of cement sidewalks in order to install grass walkways throughout OFR

Figure 41. The Davis tomb before reconstruction efforts, taken by Michael Duplantier.

Figure 42. New corrugated steel roof, as a part of the Davis tomb reconstruction, taken by Michael Duplantier.

Figure 43. Newly reconstructed Davis tomb, still awaiting the installation of three front marble tablets, taken September 2018.

Figure 44. Partial removal of cement sidewalk. Eventually, all sidewalks will be removed and grass will be planted.

(Figure 44). This will create a more welcoming feeling in the cemetery. The grass and roots can also act as a natural conservation tool.

- Howard Monument (Figures 45 and 46). The Howard Monument, an important memorial sitting atop the tumulus of the Howard Association Tomb, was cleaned in October of 2018. While this might seem insignificant, the Howard Association is historically significant as its members provided assistance and risked their lives during the numerous yellow fever epidemics that plagued New Orleans until the early twentieth century. On this Monument, there is a sculpture relief of the organizations founder, John Howard.
- Coping grave reconstruction – the complete reconstruction of a coping grave, using mainly cement and NHL

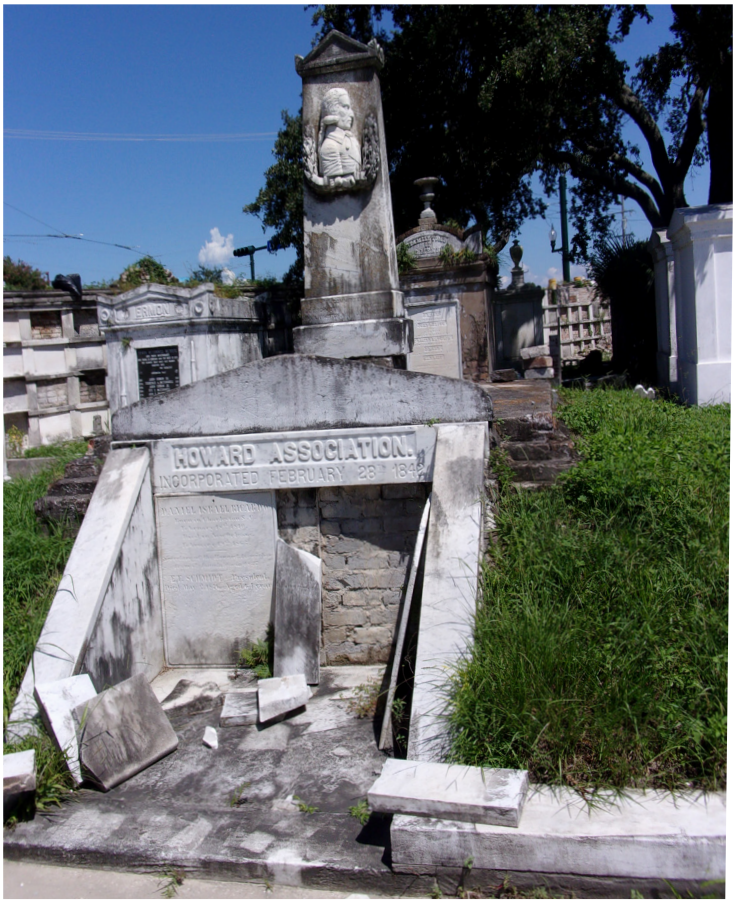


Figure 45. Howard Association tomb and monument, before being cleaned. Photo taken September 16, 2018.

Figure 46. Howard Association tomb and monument, after being cleaned. Photo taken October 27, 2018.

mixture (Figure 47). Finished October 2018.

- Barrel Vault reconstruction. The only barrel vaulted tomb in the Cemetery was in poor condition, as it previously had a massive palm tree growing out of it, as well as other biological growths (Figure 48). The tomb is currently being reconstructed, with the removal of the palm tree being the first endeavor. It is important to try as best as possible to not damage the remaining integrity of the tomb while removing the tree. The removal of the tree is the current stage of this project. In the future, the tomb will be reconstructed using similar methods and materials as its original construction.

Figure 47. Reconstructed coping grave.

ONGOING/FUTURE PROJECTS

- Cleaning - an ongoing project of cleaning the tombs, most normally with D2. The tombs that are cleaned are most normally tombs in a better condition than others.
- Landscaping
- Plans for reconstruction of many of the tombs. The decision gets made on which tombs to reconstruct mainly based on their condition - the worse the condition of the tomb, the most likely the tomb is to be

Figure 48. View from rear of barrel vaulted tomb, showing palm tree growth and conditions of the vault.

reconstructed (see: Davis Tomb).

- Stabilization – the stabilization of tombs in poor condition (see: Teutonia Lodge). This is necessary due to the fact that many of these tombs are at the risk of collapsing. Stabilization will prevent the collapse until a further, more complete reconstruction can begin. It also helps to conserve materials.

TOMB TYPE SURVEY MAP

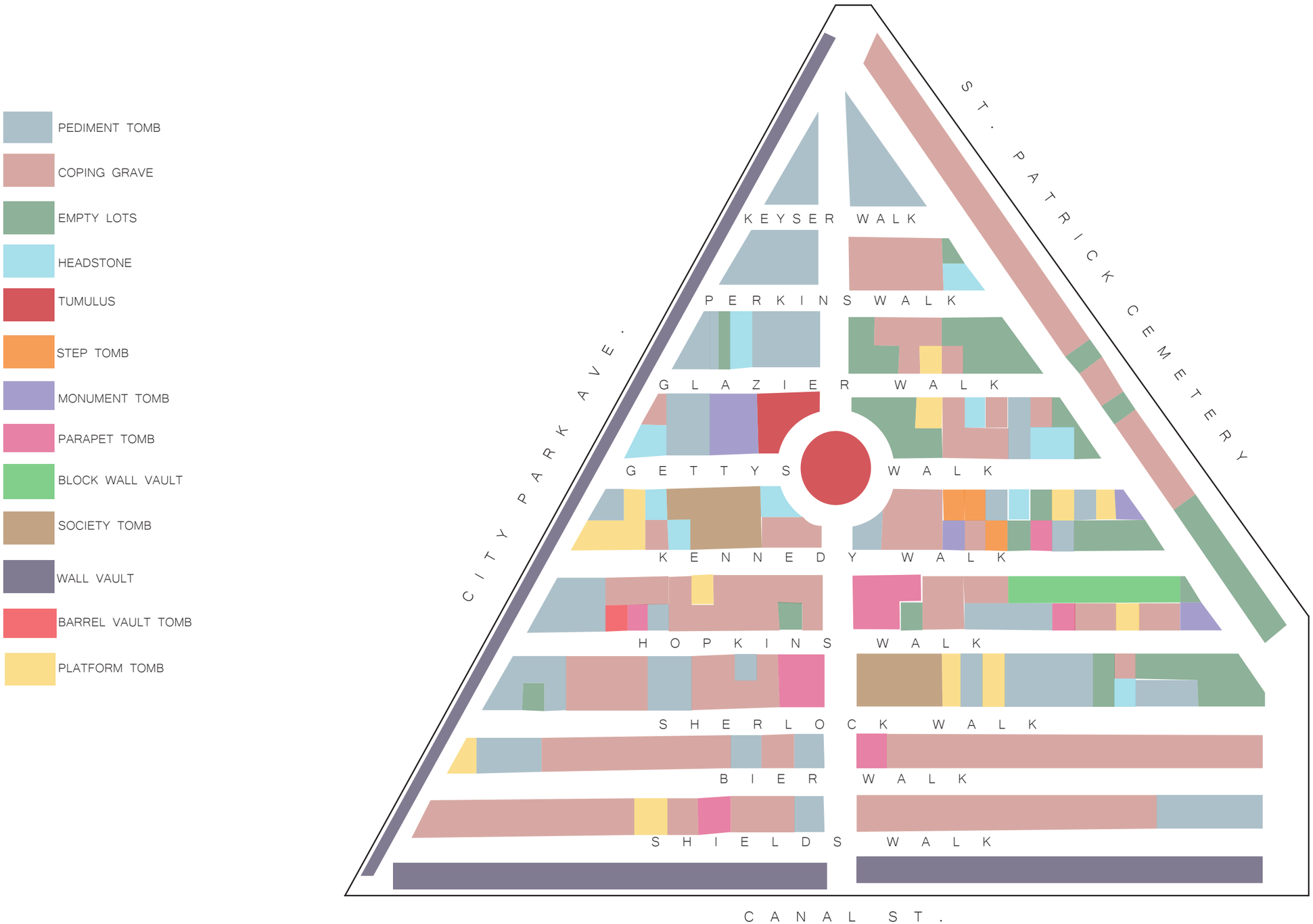


Figure 49. Map of Odd Fellows' Rest identifying tomb types by color.

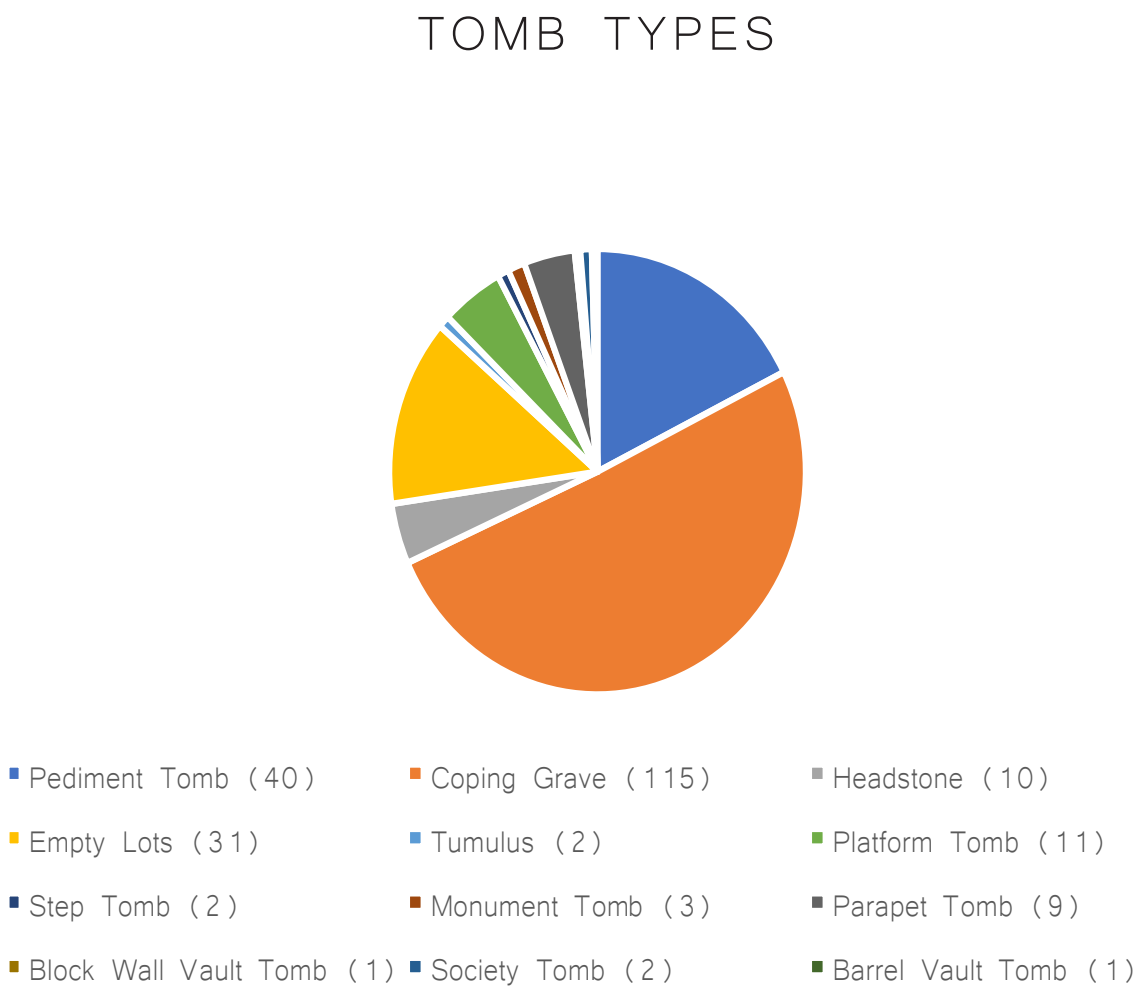


Figure 50. Pie chart showing percentage of each tomb type in OFR. Total Number of structures in survey = 226.

NOTE: Wall vault tombs are not included in this pie chart. In total, there are 692 wall vaults in three wall sections surrounding the cemetery. This count was not included because the focus of this count was in structures in the cemetery, not number of vaults in the cemetery.

TOMB TYPES

TYPE refers to the basic form and massing of a structure. A particular type is defined by common features, including footprint, roof design, and shape. The following is a list of tomb types found in OFR, using Peter Dedek's "Cemeteries of New Orleans: A Cultural History" (Baton Rouge, 2017), Appendix A: Types and Styles of Tombs in New Orleans, p. 191-209 as a reference. All photographs were taken by the author.

WALL VAULT TOMBS

Figure 51. Wall Vault tomb numbers 685-692 in OFR.

A wall vault tomb is, as the name suggests, a wall comprised of individual burial chambers. These chambers, most normally made of brick and separated by stone slabs (flagstone, in the case of OFR), is an "oblong cube that contains an individual coffin" (p. 195). These tomb types were used in New Orleans frequently through the Civil War until the mid -1900s. At OFR, these wall vaults create barriers for the cemetery, similar to the wall vaults at the St. Louis Cemeteries, going along both Canal Street and City Park Avenue. There are over 600 vaults at OFR. Marble tablets were originally placed in front of each vault - some of fallen, some have been repaired, and some are still in their original location.

BLOCK VAULT TOMBS

Figure 52. Block Wall Vault tomb.

This tomb type is quite similar to a wall vault tomb but does not surround the cemetery as a wall would. These structures are large, rectangular and consist of chambers separated by flagstone slabs and brick walls. These tomb types sometimes functioned as society tombs or other various group tombs and both instances of this are found in OFR. These types were built in New Orleans for about a century starting in the mid-1800s.

COPING GRAVE

Figure 53. Coping grave in OFR that has been covered in cement due to rising remains.

Coping graves are an interesting tomb type in New Orleans as they are, in a sense, below-ground tombs. The coffin is buried within four short walls, made of either stone or brick, raised three feet aboveground. The main purpose of these tombs is to allow an in-ground burial above the historically high New Orleans water table. After the Civil War, these tomb types became more and more prominent throughout New Orleans cemeteries. These types started showing up in the 1820s and are still used today. Many coping graves have been cemented over (see left) because remains were beginning to rise up through the ground.

SOCIETY TOMBS

Figures 54 and 55. Two society tombs in OFR.

These tombs are quite large – normally holding anywhere from ten to fifty chambers – and are more elaborate than other tombs. These structures were built by benevolent societies whose members paid monthly dues, which ensured them and their families a respectable burial in the tomb. The structure of the tomb itself is similar to a block vault tomb, in that the chambers are separated by flagstone slabs and brick walls. These chambers are reusable and create a grid-like façade in some cases. Many society tombs are faced with stone and in OFR's case, the society tombs are all marble. These tombs were built in New Orleans from 1840 to 1940.

HEADSTONE

Figure 56. Marble headstone in OFR with cemented layer behind to prevent the rising of remains, similar to a coping grave.

Headstones are perhaps the most recognizable and archetypal grave marker in our society today. They mark an underground burial, which are rare in New Orleans, and are engraved with the names, dates, and sometimes an epitaph of those interred in the grave. Headstones are typically one solid piece of stone of varying size and ornament. While these types are found more regularly in the cemeteries of other cities, they have been present in New Orleans since the early nineteenth century. While there are quite a few in OFR, the example to the left shows a typical treatment of underground burials, similar to that of a coping grave, with a layer of cement to stop remains from rising.

BARREL VAULT

These tombs are similar to pediment tombs except that they have a round roof. These roofs are constructed of brick and normally covered in stucco. The only barrel vaulted tomb in OFR is, unfortunately, in horrendous condition as there is a palm tree growing out of it. It is currently under a reconstruction project, please see page 45. There is only one in OFR and it is a single chamber tomb. Barrel vaults require a special skill of a mason to construct, so reconstructing them can be somewhat difficult.

Figure 57. View from the rear corner of the barrel vault in OFR. Rounded roof and palm tree growing out of it are visible.

MONUMENT

Monument tombs are one element of other tombs, normally set upon a base of varying tomb types. These tombs can be in the form of an obelisk, urn, statuary, etc. These monuments were most normally made of stone and constructed in New Orleans in the latter part of the nineteenth century. While there may not be too many of these tomb types in OFR, there are quite a few through out the rest of the historic cemeteries in New Orleans.

Figure 58 (left). Monument tomb in OFR. This specific monument is not on top of the tomb, as it is in other cases, but next to the tomb it is acting as a monument for. It was originally a part of the family tomb that's next to it and is engraved with family member's names.

TUMULUS

A tumulus is, in its most basic form, a mound burial - but it can also be a part of cemetery landscape. In New Orleans, tumuli look quite different now than when they were in construction originally, which started in the mid-nineteenth century. This is mostly due to the fact that the grassy hill features of the initial tumuli have been stripped and a lone, oddly shaped tomb is present.

Figure 59. Howard Association tumulus tomb.

PEDIMENT

Pediment tombs contain two or more stacked vaults and are normally family tombs. Shaped like miniature temples, the plan of these tombs are rectangular and a low-pitched gable roof. These tombs are tall and the façade has a pediment (most of the time), sometimes surrounded by decorated cornice. Built of brick covered in stucco, these tombs were built in the 1800s. These tombs are one of most common type found in OFR, with a variety of styles and even materials.

Figure 60 (left). One of the older and dilapidated pediment tombs in OFR.

STEP

Step tombs are common tomb types in the various cemeteries in New Orleans, and OFR is no exception. These tombs contain one burial, are oblong cubes in shape, are quite squat in form and have a stepped roofline. These tombs were most commonly used in New Orleans from 1800-1870.

Figure 61 (right). Step tomb in OFR.

PLATFORM

Figure 62. Platform tomb at OFR with a missing front tablet.

These platform tombs are similar to pediment tombs. While not as tall as a pediment tomb, a platform tomb, the roofline is the same or similar, as is the materials (most likely). The coffin within the tomb is elevated on a platform or pedestal above ground, which can be seen from the exterior of the tomb. Earlier versions of this tomb have sunk into the ground, which can be seen in examples at OFR today. Also similar to the pediment tomb, these types were constructed in the 1800s.

PARAPET

Parapet tombs can be single or multiple vault structures. There is a parapet wall on the façade, meaning that the façade is higher than the rest of the tomb behind. The roofline, behind the parapet wall, is varied (can be vaulted, gabled, stepped or flat). There is normally a pediment with a decorated cornice on the parapet wall. Made of brick and covered with stucco, these structures were mainly built in the 1800s.

Figure 63. Parapet tomb in OFR.

HISTORIC MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION METHODS

Before explaining conditions of tombs in OFR, it is essential to understand the materials and construction methods used when these tombs were built. While the materials and their histories used in OFR could probably be its own stand alone report, this section will be a generalization of common materials and methods used in the construction of tombs. In addition, an array of information can be gleaned from the identification of materials and methods used in construction of a tomb.

The majority of the extant tombs in OFR were built by the 1930s – meaning that the construction dates are circa 1850 – 1930s.[1] Up until the Civil War, the most common building materials in New Orleans were bricks – river or lake. River bricks (Figure 64), made from the clay of the Mississippi River, are classified as a "soft red," and are the earliest bricks to be made and used in New Orleans. Due to their softness, these bricks deteriorate quicker than other bricks – especially when exposed to humidity and varying temperature cycles.

Figure 64. New Orleans river brick: soft, red brick made from clay from the banks of the Mississippi River.

1 Leonard V. Huber, Peggy McDowell, Mary Louise Christovich. "New Orleans Architecture Volume III: The Cemeteries." Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA, 2004, p. 34.

To mitigate this deterioration, a lime-based stucco was used as a coating or protective covering for these bricks. River bricks were used in cemetery construction longer than they were used in commercial and city construction, partly because of their price (they were cheaper than other materials) and partly due to a city ordinance that required all tombs to be covered in a protective stucco.[2]

Lake bricks (Figure 65) are made from clay from two different places: Lake Pontchartrain and St. Tammany Parish. These bricks are "hard tans" and are more durable than their counterpart. While these bricks were used in tomb construction, they were more commonly used in commercial and city construction and eventually became the standard throughout New Orleans. While these two brick types were easy to manufacture and acquire, the majority of bricks coming in to New Orleans after the 1850s came from steam-powered brick-making operations in Biloxi, Mobile, and Thibodeaux. By the end of the Civil War, river bricks were no longer being used in cemeteries, meaning all brick tombs constructed after 1865 used hard tan bricks. This can also be assumed because of certain recognizable characteristics of these bricks, such as color and texture.[3]

Figure 65. New Orleans lake brick: hard, tan bricks made from clay from Lake Pontchartrain and St. Tammany Parish.

2 Emily Ford, "Bricks in the City of the Dead: Part One," Oak and Laurel Preservation LLC., blog post, September 6, 2015, http://www.oakandlaurel.com/blog/bricks-in-the-cities-of-the-dead-part-one

3 Ibid.

In 1891, St. Joe Brick Company was established (Figure 66).[4] This iconic brickyard produced, and still does, hard tan bricks that lend themselves to tomb construction - especially tombs covered in a lime stucco - due to the dimension, porousness, and permeability of the bricks.[5] St. Joe bricks are made using traditional, colonial methods with a wood mold.[6] In tomb construction, bricks were structural, making up the base, walls, and roof of the building.[7] Mortar is used to bind the bricks together and was historically made of lime, sand (aggregate), and water.[8] Lime is made when limestone is burned through the lime cycle. Mortars are supposed to deteriorate quicker than the bricks thy surround, as they are not as durable as the bricks and subsequently serve as a protective layer for the bricks. Mortar should absorb water in the building system, therefore should be replaced more frequently than bricks.[9]

Figure 66. Historic St. Joe brick, with iconic and recognizable stamp. Taken by Amanda Coleman, October 2017.

Slowly, and due to the Industrial Revolution, more modern materials became introduced to the construction industry. Cement became more and more available. From about the 1880s to the end of the second World War, cement was used in conjunction with other materials - most often with lime in mortars and stucco. By the end

4 St. Joe Brick Works, Inc., "Our History," St. Joe Brick Works, Inc., http://www.stjoebrickworks.com/history.html

5 Emily Ford, "Bricks in the City of the Dead: Part Three," Oak and Laurel, LLC., blog post, September 13, 2015, http://www.oakandlaurel.com/blog/bricks-in-the-cities-of-the-dead-part-three.

6 St. Joe Brick Works, Inc.

7 Michael Shoriak, "Historic Building Materials: Architectural Ceramics," class lecture, PRST 6720 Preservation Technology, Tulane School of Architecture, New Orleans, LA, February 9, 2018.

8 Michael Shoriak, "Historic Building Materials: Mortars and Plasters," class lecture, PRST 6720 Preservation Technology, Tulane School of Architecture, New Orleans, LA, February 1, 2018

9 Ibid.

of World War II, Portland cement was the norm in construction and had replaced lime completely.[10] This is in tandem with the rise of cast materials such as stone, block, and concrete.[11] The use of cement in OFR during the 1950s, which has been discussed previously, represents the use of it in other cemeteries as well.

All of the stone that was used in cemetery construction in New Orleans was imported. The majority of used in OFR are marble, limestone, flagstone, and granite. Marble was from Italy until quarry technology in America advanced so that domestic marble was made available, starting in the 1850s. Domestic quarries that supplied New Orleans were mainly in the south, Alabama and Georgia, but also the northeast, Vermont.[12] Marble was used in OFR as veneers, tablets, shelving, sculptures, and other decorative elements. Limestone is similar to marble in composition[13] and was imported from quarries in Tennessee and Georgia, although limestone is quite rare.[14] The main use for limestone in cemeteries is as closure tablets. These are recognizable due to shell inclusions that are visible within the limestone.[15]

Flagstone is a form of sandstone and is a layered rock. Generally used in the construction of wall vaults, multi-vault tombs, society tombs, and block wall vaults as shelving or separators, flagstone can be expensive to replace today.[16] Historically, flagstone was imported to New Orleans from Pennsylvania. Granite was rare in New Orleans cemeteries until the latter part of the nineteenth century. Imported mainly from quarries in the northeast, granite is a very hard stone that doesn't break or fracture easily.[17] It also comes in a variety of colors. Granite was generally used as headstones and veneers, especially in OFR. The most recognizable example of granite is when pieces of granite rubble were attached to the body of a tomb with thick Portland cement joints (Figure 67).

While all of these stone types have differing properties and characteristics, they all deteriorate in similar ways. This also means that these stones can be fixed or preserved in similar ways. Water will always be one of

10 John Spewick, "The History of Msonry Mortar in America 1720-1995," National Lime Association, 1995, p. 2-3, 9.
11 Ford, "Bricks in t he City of the Dead: Part Three."
12 Emily Ford, "New Orleans Cemetery Stone: Types, Origins and Technology," Oak and Laurel Preservation, LLC., blog post, July 31, 2016, http://www.oakandlaurel.com/blog/new-orleans-cemetery-stone-types-origins-and-technology.
13 Michael Shoriak, "Historic Building Materials: Stone," class lecture, PRST 6720 Preservation Technology, Tulane School of Architecture, New Orleans, LA, January 25, 2018.
14 Ford, "New Orleans Cemetery Stone: Types, Origins and Technology."
15 Shoriak, "Historic Building Materials: Stone."
16 Conversation between Michael Duplantier and the author, September 2018.
17 Shoriak, "Historic Building Materials: Stone."

Figure 67. Tomb in Odd Fellows' Rest clad in granite rubble stone and thick Portland cement mortar joints. This granite rubble was most likely a twentieth century addition.

the biggest issues facing any material, and stone is no exception. Once water gets into stone, it moves through the stone at varying degrees based upon the porosity of the stone. If the water freezes, it expands and can cause cracking over time and through many freeze/thaw cycles. Once water leaves the stone, salt is left behind and crystallizes, causing efflorescence. This salt also expands when frozen. In some cases, this salt is visible on the outside of the stone in a white powder.[18] Erosion of the substrate of stone is also common. Air pollution causes dirt and bacteria to stick to the outer surface as well.[19] Many of these deterioration problems are also associated with brick. Major cracks in stone can be fixed by introducing pins to the system, which re-attaches the two pieces. Smaller cracks can be fixed by filling the crack, normally with cement, and then applying a sac-

18 Ibid.

19 Eric Doehne and Clifford A. Price, "Stone Conservation: An Overview of Current Research," The Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles, 2010, p. 9-26.

rificial outer layer of lime wash that will bear the brunt of weathering.[20] Spalling, which is caused by the freeze/thaw cycle of water, can be repaired by sealing the substrate.

Tombs were commonly constructed in brick, with either a lime mortar, lime and Portland cement mortar, or Portland cement mortar – depending upon construction date. For tombs with multiple vaults, wall vault tombs, society tombs, and block wall vault tombs, slabs of stone were used as a separation between vaults and as a part of the roof. In OFR, this slab was normally flagstone. Tombs were then covered with either a lime stucco or a Portland cement stucco. Most tombs have veneers of various materials – marble (more expensive, used in earlier constructed tombs) or stone (granite is most common). Much of the marble in historic cemeteries can be traced to Italy, making it near impossible to replace. Closure tablets were the last element of the tomb to be installed, also in varying materials – marble, limestone, and granite were the most commonly used. In general, tomb construction and materials depended upon those being memorialized.[21]

20 Shoriak, "Historic Building Materials: Stone."

21 Ford, "New Orleans Cemetery Stone: Types, Origins and Technology."

EXISTING CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT MAP

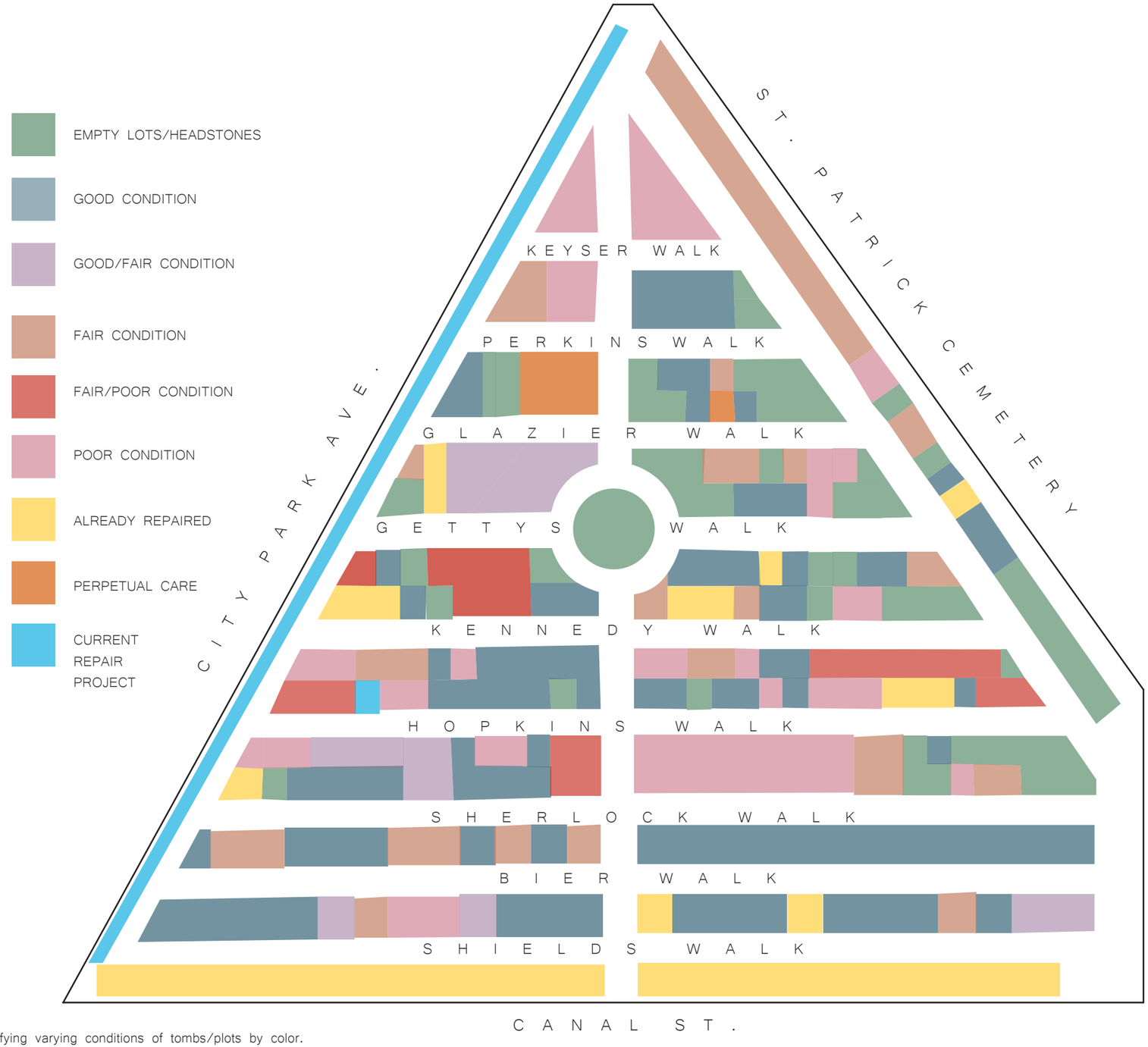


Figure 68. Map of Odd Fellows' Rest identifying varying conditions of tombs/plots by color.

CONDITIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

The tombs in this survey were assessed based upon the following factors: condition of the building system and structure, presence of character defining features, cracks, spalling, biological growth, and stains, and loss of material.

Priority for repair and reconstruction is given to those tombs in poor condition first, followed by fair/poor, fair, good/fair, and finally, good condition.

BUILDING SYSTEM/STRUCTURE - all of the elements contributing to the overall structure of the building (brick, stone, mortar, veneers, roof system, closure tablets). When one of these elements fails for any reason, the rest of the building is at risk for failure as well.

CHARACTER DEFINING FEATURES - a part of architectural value, a building's character defining feature (or features) are visual and physical aspects of a structure that contribute to its history, uniqueness, and overall character. This can include shape, openings, materials, decoration, roof, environment, and other features. When these characteristics are lost, the building is no longer recognizable as historic and unique. It is important to retain as much original material as possible when intervening because when this is lost, the historic significance of the building is also lost.

CRACKING - narrow fissures in a block of masonry. These cracks happen with weathering of the stone when water gets trapped in the building system and expands/retracts during freeze/thaw cycles. Cracks are most normally fixed in one of two ways: addition of a stabilizing pin or using a cement-like material to fill the crack.

SPALLING - breakage or flaking of the substrate. Spalling happens when there are interior stresses to stone or concrete, most normally due to freeze/thaw cycles of water. It is hard to repair, but to prevent further breakage or flaking, sealing the substrate with a protective layer can be done.

BIOLOGICAL GROWTH AND VEGETATION - various organisms (lichens, mold, etc.) that grow with the presence of water. Can occur on the substrate or within the building, in the mortar. Happens most often in locations that are not exposed to the sun. Also includes serious and damaging growth of trees that occurs when roots get into the mortar. When water also gets trapped in the system, this spurs the growth of plants. Unless stopped, this can cause terrible and irreversible damage to buildings, and even cause the building to collapse. The easiest way to rid a substrate of biological growth is with noninvasive cleaning methods. Removing

roots from a building system is much more complex and explained in the “Recommendations” section of this report.

STAINS - stains on the substrate of the stone for various reasons, such as air pollution. Simple, gentle, noninvasive cleaning methods can remove these stains.

LOSS - loss of material due to either vandalism and theft or erosion and weathering, mitigated by replacement.

EMPTY LOTS/HEADSTONES

There are thirty-one empty lots and ten headstones in OFR, totaling forty-one lots. The empty lots are spaced out throughout the cemetery and are covered in grass, which is occasionally mowed (Figure 69). Plots where headstones are present are also covered in grass (also occasionally mowed), which is why they are grouped with the empty lots. As this is a survey of the conditions of structures within the cemetery, and a headstone does not constitute a structure, it was unnecessary to classify the headstones in the same categories as the built tombs. With that being said, the majority of the headstones are made of marble or granite and are

Figure 69. Multiple empty lots (in the foreground) in OFR.

in good to fair condition.

Continuously, the mound in the middle of the cemetery (technically a tumulus as there is a burial in this mound) was also included in this section for the same reason as the headstone: it is not a built structure. This mound is grassy and is mowed occasionally.

GOOD CONDITION

While good is a relative term, good in the sense of this survey means structurally sound, all character defining features have been retained, little to no missing or loss of material, little to no staining of any kind, no cracking or spalling, and minimal biological growth.

Many of the structures that are in good condition in OFR are coping graves (see page 50). While not all of the coping graves are in good condition, the majority of them are (Figure 70). This is due to a few factors: when they were built, which also can determine material used, how they were built, and if there have been any interventions. The majority of the coping graves are made out of cement, leading to the conclusion that these were built or rehabilitated, at least, after the mid-1930s (when Portland cement became the norm in the construction industry and replaced lime).

Figure 70. Row of coping graves in good condition.

The remaining structures that are in good condition are recognizable as thy stand out amongst their dilapidated neighbors. They are not typically made of marble, because the marble tombs were early construction, closer to the time of the beginning of the cemetery. These tombs are constructed of other stone – such as granite. While some issues in these 'good condition' tombs are definitely visible, the majority of these issues can be mitigated by cleaning (Figure 71).

Figure 71. Large family tomb in good condition, but with some visible issues, such as the staining on the bottom steps.

GOOD/FAIR CONDITION

Tombs classified as in good/fair condition are mostly structurally sound, the majority of the character defining features have been retained, little to no loss of material, little to no cracking or spalling, and some biological growth. Various tomb types are classified this way.

Figure 72. Structurally sound family tomb, showing mainly cosmetic issues (staining), which are relatively easy to repair. Marble is in good condition.

Figure 73. Coping grave, showing relatively good/fair conditions with cracking on the top of the grave.

Figure 74. This tomb is not as exposed to the elements due to it being a tumulus, helping to contribute to its maintained condition. It has minor staining and has recently been cleaned.

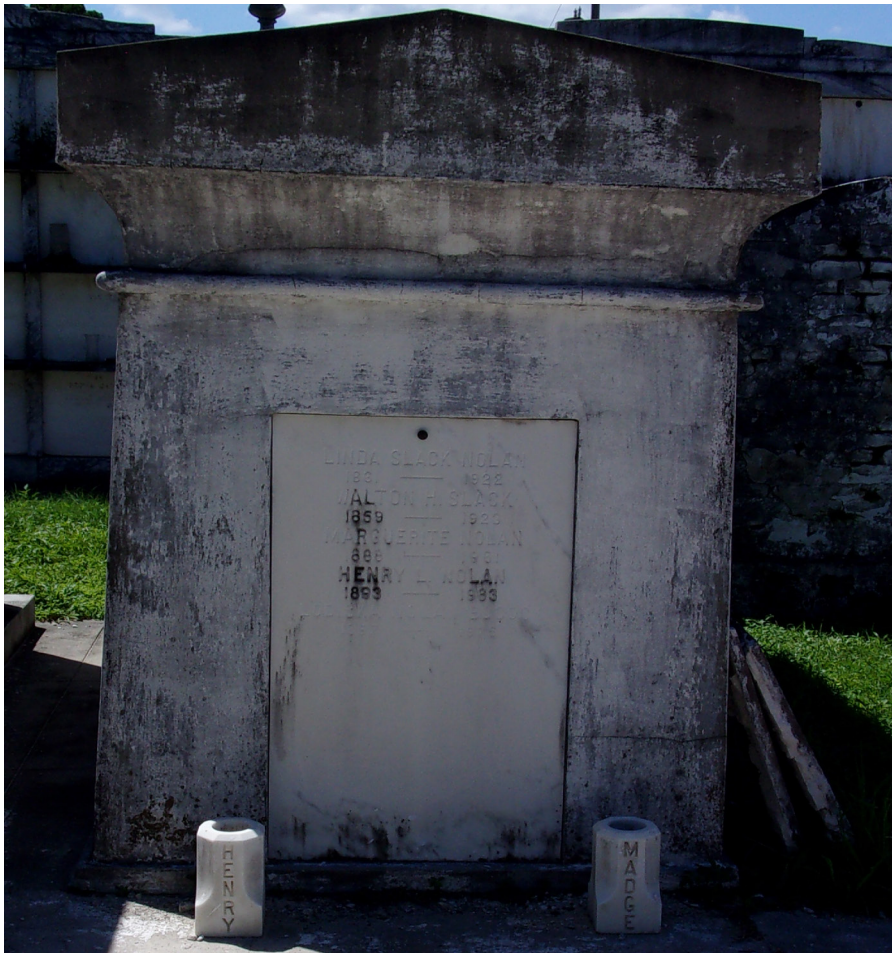


Figure 75. A structurally sound tomb showing cosmetic damages and some cracking.

Figure 76. Two structurally sound tombs with some spalling. Cleaning is needed.

FAIR CONDITION

These tombs have some structural failure, some loss of character defining features, a little bit of staining and loss of material, noticeable biological growth, and some cracking or spalling. Various tomb types are classified this way.

Figure 77. Mostly structurally sound tomb with noticeable biological growth, cracking, and spalling of the stuccoed exterior. Missing closure tablet.

Figure 78 (to the left). Structurally sound tomb with noticeable biological growth, staining, cracking, and spalling of the marble veneer. Missing closure tablet.

Figure 79 (to the right). Highly decorated, structurally sound tomb showing lots of staining.

FAIR/POOR CONDITION

Fair/poor condition tombs have significant structural failure, little remaining character defining features, significant loss of material and cracking, significant spalling, some biological growth, and staining. Various tomb types are classified this way.

Figure 80 (top). Society tomb showing major crackining and staining and missing closure tablets.

Figure 81 (bottom). Side view of top portion of roof on the same tomb pictured above. Lots of vegetation, missing brick cornice, and loss of stuccoed exterior (can see some remaining on bottom left corner of photograph).

Figure 82 (to the right). Missing portion of pediment, staining and spalling of substrate, and some biological growth out of the roof.

Figure 83 (to the left). Missing closure tablet, significant biological growth, missing stucco exterior and loss of some bricks on the parapet.

POOR CONDITION

Tombs that are in poor condition have serious structural failure, no remaining character defining features, major loss of material, serious cracking, spalling and biological growth, and staining. Various tomb types are classified this way. Tombs classified as in “Poor Condition” should be given first priority for reconstruction or rehabilitation.

Figure 84. Two tombs in poor condition: significant vegetation growth and cracking. Missing bricks, stucco, and partially missing gate on the left.

Figure 85 (to the right). Tomb with a large and severe crack on the side, as well as significant staining and a missing enclosure tablet.

Figure 86. Significant missing material of the cornice and roof, cracking, spalling, and staining of front facade.

Figure 87. View of the rear of tomb shown to the left; partially missing stone veneer and bricks, vegetation.

Figure 88. Severe vegeation and cracking, missing features (enclosure tablet and inverted torch), missing bricks and stucco.

Figure 89. Coping grave in poor condition with cracking and some missing material.

ALREADY REPAIRED TOMBS

Tombs in this category have already been repaired with the current rehabilitation project. More details and photographs can be found in the Scope of Work - "Completed Projects" on pages 36-38.

PERPETUAL CARE

In general, tombs are considered the property of the families that paid for them to be built (or property of whomever may have bought the tomb after that). This means that the families are responsible for the maintenance and care of their tombs. Tombs in OFR, for the most part, are either orphaned tombs or families have not been taking care of their tombs – which is also a commonality among the other historic New Orleans cemeteries. However, perpetual care is an option that some families can opt in to for these structures. Normally, the families pay a lump sum to the cemetery, which is then put into a trust: "The interest earned from the

Figure 90. Two tombs being cared for in perpetuity.

trust is used to provide regular care and maintenance and to make repairs of whichever kind as required to keep the memorial in first class condition."[1] Perpetual care maintenance, in general, includes cleaning and the yearly application of a layer of white paint over the surface of the tomb. This layer of paint is intended to be a protective layer for the tomb, as well as a cosmetic choice – it hides any irregularities or cracks on the surface.

However, perpetual care is not necessarily the best form of maintenance for these small buildings. Instead of fixing any major problems, the perpetual care is covering them. They are not in as good of condition as they look to be because of the yearly paint layers. The paint layers trap moisture inside the building system which can cause system failures and severe material deterioration. Unfortunately, these failures and deterioration are never seen, so the damage cannot be recognized and therefore mitigated. It would be a much better system if the paint layer was instead a lime wash, a more compatible material that would allow moisture to enter and leave the building as needed - as would happen in a structural sound building.

1 New Orleans Catholic Cemeteries, "Perpetual Care," https://nolacatholiccemeteries.org/perpetual-care-1

Regardless of these preservation concerns, tombs cared for in perpetuity look new – and in instances such as the historic New Orleans cemeteries look somewhat out of place next to their deteriorated and forgotten about counterparts. Perpetual care can be attractive to many families that have the financial capability to purchase it, as it is an easy way for them to passively ensure care.

Figure 91. Perpetual care tomb.

CURRENT REPAIR PROJECT

This category encompasses structures that are currently being rehabilitated. While there are many current projects, I have only focused on the most imperative projects. Please see Scope of Work - "Current Projects," pages 39-45 for a more detailed description and photographs of the projects.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations and decisions are based upon construction material, existing conditions, and the following:

SECRETARY OF INTERIOR STANDARDS

Since Odd Fellows' Rest is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, all efforts to preserve, rehabilitate, reconstruct, or restore should comply with the Secretary of Interior Standards.

PRESERVATION - the maintenance and repair of existing historic materials and retention of a property's form as it has evolved over time

REHABILITATION - acknowledges the need to alter or add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character

RESTORATION - depiction of a property at a particular period of time in its history, while removing evidence of other periods

RECONSTRUCTION - re-creates vanished or non-surviving portions of a property for interpretive purposes

While there are specific standards for each approach defined above, each approach can be adopted to various tombs in OFR. Generally, these Standards say that historic character should be retained, existing conditions should be evaluated, and treatments should be undertaken using the gentlest means possible.[1] Also, existing fabric and structure should be retained as best as possible and the replacement of missing elements should be done with utmost care.[2] Specific Standards can all be found on the Secretary of Standards website.

DEGREES OF INTERVENTION

In architectural preservation, there are various degrees of intervention, as explained in Figure 92. In general, the

1 U.S. Department of the Interior, "Four Approaches to the Treatment of Historic Properties," National Parks Service, https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments.htm

2 John Stubbs, "Time Honored: A Global View of Architectural Conservatio," John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New Jersey, 2009, p. 125.

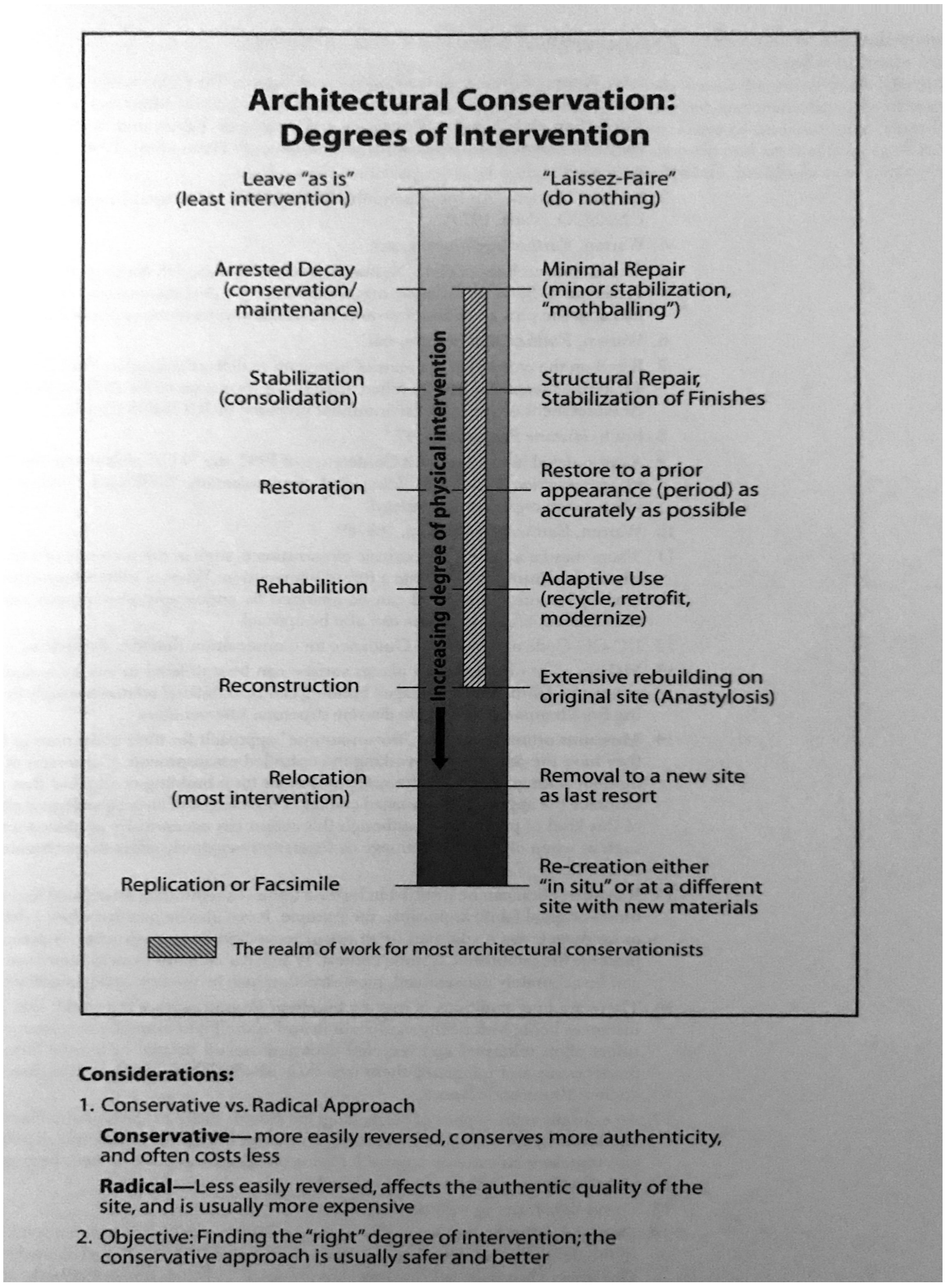


Figure 92. "Architectural Conservation: Degrees of Intervention," from John Stubbs, "Time Honored: A Global View of Architectural Conservation,"John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New Jersey, 2009, p. 127.

more intervention there is, the "greater risk to authenticity and the likelihood of irreversibility."[3] Continuously, some architectural heritage is complicated to preserve, especially when there are multiple interventions happening at one time.[4] Regardless of approach or intervention, "long-term conservation is best served by the continued use of a site in a way that respects its structural integrity and surviving historic architectural fabric."[5]

RECOGNIZING AND DIMINISHING HUMAN THREATS

Human threats to historic sites include improper repairs, harsh cleaning and improper cleaning products, vibrations from large vehicles, vandalism, and looting.[6] Improper repairs and cleaning are, ultimately, a threat to the longterm viability.[7] The use of incompatible materials can be detrimental to a tomb or building, while harsh cleaning can strip away layers of stone and wash out mortar, which weakens the building system.[8] Vehicular vibrations are a huge problem in New Orleans and cause buildings to shake apart.[9] For years, looting and vandalism have been a problem for cemeteries. Tourists steal for souvenirs, various forms of graffiti is present throughout numerous cemeteries, and over a million dollar's worth of precious materials have been stolen from New Orleans cemeteries.[10] While there are various ways to diminish these human threats, the easiest ones to control are regarding repairs and cleaning. Ensuring correct and appropriate materials and methods is the best way to do this, which requires education and skill. Trying to diminish looting and vandalism is harder, but not impossible. Restricting access and monitoring those who enter the cemetery is the most common form of mitigation for these issues.

NATURAL THREATS

Natual threats to historic sites include water, vegetation and biological growth, and the ground that the site

3 Ibid.
4 Ibid.
5 Ibid.
6 Peter B. Dedek. "Cemeteries of New Orleans: A Cultural History." Louisiana State University Press, Baton, Rouge, LA, 2017, p. 173-6.
7 Ibid., p. 173.
8 Ibid., p. 173-4.
9 Ibid., p. 174.
10 Ibid., p. 175.

is build on.[11] Water is a common issue for the preservation of architecture and cemetery structures are no exception. Water weakens structures in many different ways, so it is important to guarantee routine maintenance and use of proper materials.[12] Vegetation and biological growth, as we have seen with Teutonia Lodge in Part One, can do irreversible things to a tomb's structure. Roots "push up foundations, penetrate walls, and create or widen gaps,"[13] while also destabilizing structure and ruining substrates. Eventually, when these roots are left untreated and plants begin to grow, tombs can collapse. The ground that all buildings are built on in New Orleans is a loamy silt. It expands and contracts, naturally, when wet and dry.[14] Unfortunately, this causes settling, shifting and cracking in structures.[15] The earlier the construction date, the more vulnerable the structure. For the most part, it is important to not only be reactionary when it comes to these natural threats.

OWNERSHIP

Ownership is a very important part of cemetery preservation. The families who own the tombs are the ones who are supposed to spearhead projects. However, as is the case in OFR, many tombs are orphaned and are therefore left to deteriorate and crumble. In New Orleans, for work to be done on a tomb that has been orphaned, an ad in the newspaper must be circulated for a specified amount of time. This is to ensure due diligence before work can be done, so that families who may own the tomb can come forward to make a decision based on their preferences. If nobody comes forward in the time allotted, the tomb an be cared for however cemetery management sees fit. For the most part, this process is used at OFR when working on tombs.[16]

11 Ibid., p. 169-71.
12 Ibid., p. 170.
13 Ibid., p. 171.
14 Ibid., p. 169.
15 Ibid.
16 Conversation between Michael Duplantier and the author, September 2018.

The following recommendations are a generalization for the majority of the tombs in fair to poor condition. For the tombs in good or good/fair condition, cleaning and routine maintenance should occur, as well as other specific treatments. It is important to remember the Secretary of Interior Standards and to retain as much original material as possible.

CONSULTATION OF A STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

Consulting a structural engineer can help to maintain the historic character of the structure by helping to identify conditions and methods of correcting significant structural problems. In most instances, structural issues should be given primary attention. These issues can also be easily integrated with other conservation efforts. This has been the case for many of completed projects at OFR.

REMOVAL OF BIOLOGICAL GROWTH, VEGETATION, AND STAINING

While the removal of most biological growth and staining is relatively easy as it just requires routine cleaning, the removal of actual vegetation is more complicated and risky. Biological growth and staining can be removed with gentle cleaning methods and appropriate cleaning materials. To remove vegetation (rooted plants or trees, in this case), elements of the structure should be removed. Once removed, they should be stored in a safe place. Only one or two pieces should be removed at one time and evaluations should be made if more pieces should also be removed. Once all necessary elements are removed, trees should be cut down to a stump. Bricks should then be removed in order to expose root system (bricks should be reused). Large roots should be cut through and eventually, the tree stump should be pulled out. Dirt and loose mortar can then be removed. Herbicide should then be sprayed, ensuring that a heavy coating is sprayed on any remaining vegetation and organisms. It is important not to get this herbicide on marble. All removed elements can then be placed back on the structure.

STONE REPLACEMENT/DEFECTS

Stone replacement should only happen when the original stone has decayed to such a degree that it affects the

structural stability and function of the building. It is imperative that appropriate material is used when replacing or patching affected areas. The ideal replacement material would match the original in color, appearance and physical properties. Please see “Materials,” page 60 for information regarding stone.

REPOINTING

Repointing mortar should only be done when there is absence or failure of mortar. Replacement mortar should match original mortar in color and texture, which can be ensured by mortar testing. In historic structures, the common belief by preservationists is that natural hydraulic lime should be used – not Portland cement. Existing joints should be raked out at least a quarter of an inch deep and then fully packed with the new mortar mixture, which should be flush with the brick.

FINISHES/VENEERS

Original materials should be used whenever possible when attaching veneers and applying finishes to tombs. This ultimately depends on personal choice and beliefs. The tomb can be made to look brand new, as it looked when it was first built. A faux patina can be accomplished, to create the look of deterioration while having had repairs. Or, the structure can be made structurally sound and the exterior can be remained untouched.

INTERIOR

The state of the interior of a tomb cannot be known for sure until projects get started, although some assumptions can be made based upon the condition of the exterior of the tomb. For the most part, interiors will need to be stabilized – which can be integrated with the reconstruction project as a whole

CONCLUSION

This practicum report came about after quite a bit of consideration. At the beginning of the practicum, I was unsure what would come of the report and was just excited to be working in a new environment – even though I very quickly started missing air conditioning. The first few weeks of working at OFR consisted of cleaning various tombs – a total of three. This was all while figuring out what the report would consist of at the end of the practicum, which took us a little while. We then decided that I would attempt to do an analysis of a severely deteriorated orphan tomb, which would include a mortar analysis and assistance in rebuilding the tomb. Unfortunately, this did not pan out. Finally, it was decided that I would complete a mock-HABS Report on Teutonia Lodge. This consisted of drawings, photographs, and a detailed history and evolution of the building.

I worked on this for quite some time and exhausted all paths of research and information and came to a conclusion: due to lack of available information on the cemetery, this report would not be enough to fulfill the requirements of the practicum. So, I then decided that I would complete a conditions survey of the cemetery. This would result in recommendations on how to treat the tombs in the cemetery. There is a current preservation project, and with that being said, it was slightly complicated to figure out how my personal preservation philosophies fit in with the decisions that have been made on completed projects. Because of this, I decided on making generalizations rather than strict and specific advice, as would be in a traditional report of this kind.

It is quite important to note that the individuals in charge of the current project are not preservationists. Some preservationists have been contracted to work in the cemetery on various projects, but for the most part, many accepted and normal preservation practices are not and probably will not occur in the current project – even though they are considered and implemented in some cases. This is partly due to cost, but also partly due to the personal choices of those in charge.

Ultimately, I learned quite a few things. Through this process, I have furthered my survey and architectural drawing skills, become more comfortable with independent research, and realized how important the knowledge and experience various classes taken at Tulane have been. For me, it was important that this practicum and re-

port reflect my professional aspirations and hopefully become a part of my portfolio to show potential employers. I think, in general, this report satisfies that, although I would have liked to go into more detail and specificities with the conditions survey.

In the end, I think it is important to reflect on goals and the reasoning I have completed this report. Being exposed to New Orleans cemeteries at the beginning of my first semester as a Preservation Studies student in this program, I had some familiarity with the issues associated with these historic cemeteries. Working with Odd Fellows' Rest has not only opened my eyes to how serious some of the issues are, but has also made me realize that this is more widespread. The biggest issue facing the future of historic cemeteries has more to do with people than with material deterioration or natural threats. Once something (whether that be an idea, an object, a tomb) becomes removed from someone's history or knowledge, for whatever reason, it will just become more and more removed. This results in lack of care (both physical and emotional) for that object. The historic cemeteries are prime examples of this – as families move away and the trend is no longer that your status is shown by your burial, cemeteries have fallen to the wayside (this started in after the sescond World War). Fortunately, there are some places that have changed this and made cemeteries an amazing place for people to visit, such as Glasnevin Cemetery (Dublin, Ireland, where they have added a visitor center, gift shop, and café) and Laurel Hill Cemetery (Philadelphia, PA, where management has begun to generate real revenue by hosting educational and recreational events, such as "Yoga in the Cemetery"),

While it has been my hope to provide some documentation for a cemetery that does not have as much as others, I also hope that this report has shown the importance of proper cemetery management by showing what happens when a cemetery has been mismanaged - and that it is possible to mitigate this mismanagement. The report also shows the importance of retaining these historic cemeteries, not only for their uniqueness but because they are an educational playground for architects, preservationists, tourists, and anyone interested in history, cemetery architecture, and New Orleans. Cemeteries are such an important part of the historic landscape and culture in New Orleans that it would be a devastating loss to the cultural landscape of the city. Fortunately, the futures of these cemeteries seem to be in good hands, regardless of how slowly things tend to happen.

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