RESOLUTION - EXHIBIT I
PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY
LANDMARKS HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION

RESOLVED BY THE LANDMARKS HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF OMAHA:

WHEREAS, the Prospect Hill Cemetery Association is the owner of Prospect Hill Cemetery; and,

WHEREAS, the Prospect Hill Cemetery Association, on March 2, 1979, requested that Prospect Hill Cemetery be designated a Landmark under the City of Omaha's Landmark Heritage Preservation Ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, Prospect Hill Cemetery's formal beginning occurred in 1858 when Moses Shinn allocated ten acres of his claim for burial purposes; and,

WHEREAS, Prospect Hill Cemetery is historically related to Byron Reed, an early Omaha realtor, who donated the Cemetery to the City after managing it for twenty years; and,

WHEREAS, Prospect Hill Cemetery contains the graves of many prominent early Omaha developers and businessmen including Yates, Poppleton, Redick, Redman, Beals, Reed, Buffet, Kountze, Millard, Lowe, Drexel, Dueil, Woolworth, Hitchcock, Hummel, Hanscom, Krug, Megeath, Shinn and Wakeley.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LANDMARKS HERITAGE PRESERVATION OF THE CITY OF OMAHA:

THAT, Prospect Hill Cemetery, 3202 Parker Street, be designated as a Landmark of the City of Omaha.
Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

INSPECTION DATE

4/6/79

REQUEST

- X Landmark Designation
- Landmark Heritage
- District Designation
- Certificate of Approval
- to Perform Work

CATEGORY

- District
- Building
- Structure
- X Site
- Object

APPLICANT

Prospect Hill Cemetery Association

LOCATION OF PROPOSED DESIGNATION OR WORK

3202 Parker

PRESENT USE

Cemetery

CONFORMANCE WITH MASTER PLAN

In conformance with the 1977 Community Development Master Plan in which reconstruction of semi-public facilities is proposed

NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

Existing:

Deteriorating early 20th century residential area which includes a high concentration of Omaha Housing Authority projects.

Probable future effect on neighborhood if designation is granted or work is approved.

The designation will hopefully provide the stabilization of the major open space in the area and will enable the Association to apply for maintenance funding.

PRESERVATION ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approval

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Approval

ADDITIONAL DATA
Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission
APPLICATION FOR LANDMARK OR LANDMARK HERITAGE DISTRICT DESIGNATION

NAME OF STRUCTURE  
Historic  Prospect Hill Cemetery  
and/or Common  

LOCATION  
Street and Number  3202 Parker Street; the cemetery's boundaries are Parker and Erskine Streets on the south and north, and 31st Avenue and 33rd Street on the east and west.  

CLASSIFICATION  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Present Use</th>
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<td>Building(s)</td>
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<td>Work in Progress</td>
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<td>Object</td>
<td>In Process</td>
<td>Accessible</td>
<td>Entertainment</td>
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</table>

OWNER OF PROPERTY  
Name  Prospect Hill Cemetery Association  
Phone Number  556-6057  
Street and Number  3202 Parker Street  
City, State and Zip Code  Omaha, NE 68102  
Representative  H. David Neely, Vice President  
Street and Number  c/o First Northwestern Trust Company of Nebraska  
City, State and Zip Code  Omaha, NE 68102  

LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
The SW\(\frac{1}{4}\) of the SE\(\frac{1}{4}\) of the SW\(\frac{1}{4}\) of Section 9, Township 15N, Range 13E of the 6th Principle Meridian, Douglas County, Nebraska and Tax Lot 35, except the East 20 feet thereof, in the N\(\frac{1}{2}\) of the NW\(\frac{1}{4}\) of Section 16, Township 15N, Range 13E of the 6th Principle Meridian, Douglas County, Nebraska.  

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS  
Title  
Date  
Federal ___ State ___ County ___ Local ___
DESCRIPTION
Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance.

The permanent fund of the Prospect Hill Cemetery has not generated enough income in recent years to totally maintain the cemetery. Inflation and the difficulties of identifying lot owners for yearly care assessments are the culprits. An organized effort is underway to obtain the funds necessary for resetting monuments, installing water lines, upgrading roads and other improvements. The physical appearance is the top priority of the preservation effort.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Specific Dates
Architect
Builder See attached sheets.

March 2, 1979

Date

Signature of Owner/Representative
Dave Neel y, Vice-President
Prospect Hill Cemetery Association
SIGNIFICANCE

Prospect Hill Cemetery is of prime historical significance to Omaha. It is probable that very early burials were made at this location since it is adjacent to the Old Military Road, constructed by the government in 1855 for travelers moving west. The road angled northwest from 24th and Cuming Streets and followed a ridge toward Bennington and on to Fremont in territorial days.

The formal beginning of the cemetery occurred in 1858 when Moses Shinn allocated ten acres of his claim northwest of town for burial purposes. Adjoining Shinn's land was a tract of ground belonging to Jesse Lowe, on which a few burials had been made. The ground was not fenced and stock roamed over the graves at will. Previously some burials were made in Shull's Addition, 20th and Poppleton Streets.

In 1859, Byron Reed purchased ten acres from Mr. Shinn and fifteen acres from Mr. Lowe, including the sites of the graves. He then dedicated fourteen acres of the ground for cemetery purposes with the provision that the land should revert to him or his heirs if it should cease to be used as a burial place. He also called the new cemetery Prospect Hill — before this it had been known as Cedar Hill Cemetery. For more than twenty years Byron Reed cared for it at his own expense, the total outlay reportedly exceeding the income by some five thousand dollars.

Formal burial permit number one, in 1858, is that of Alonzo F. Salisbury, one of Omaha's pioneers and a member of the Third Territorial Legislative which convened January 5, 1857. Cemetery records indicate several burial permits prior to 1858, including that of Jacob Shull. This has led to conjecture that some of the early burials in Shull's Addition may have been removed to Prospect Hill.
In 1885, the Nebraska Legislature passed an act permitting cemetery associations to own more land than previously allowed. Forest Lawn Cemetery Association was organized under this new law on a half section of land in what is now the northern part of the City, although then it was far beyond the City limits. Mr. Reed turned over management of Prospect Hill Cemetery to the new Forest Lawn Association. However, in the spring of 1890, the lot owners of Prospect Hill organized and incorporated under the name of the Prospect Hill Cemetery Association, and assumed control and management of their own cemetery. Additional land was purchased from Byron Reed's estate to enlarge the cemetery.

A partial list of the better known names of those involved in early Omaha history who are buried at Prospect Hill includes Yates, Poppleton, Redick, Redman, Beals, Reed, Buffet, Kountze, Millard, Lowe, Drexel, Dewel, Anna Wilson and her friend Dan Allen, Woolworth, Hitchcock, Hummel, Hanscom, Krug, Megeath, Shinn and Wakeley. Many of these persons were early Omaha developers and businessmen, those for whom Omaha streets, schools and parks were named, and at the state level, those for whom Nebraska towns and counties were named. In addition to these very well known names could be added many others, some less famous but very important to the early development of Omaha. Prospect Hill was also the post cemetery for Fort Omaha until Forest Lawn Cemetery was founded in 1885.

PEOPLE BURIED IN PROSPECT HILL CEMETERY

Rev. Moses F. Shinn (6)

Rev. Moses F. Shinn erected the first Methodist Church in Omaha in 1856. He was a fiery preacher who had to contend with ruffians in the street outside his church on Sundays. Shinn was not above interrupting his sermon, going out to quiet the rowdies and returning to his pulpit to continue the service. Before he became a preacher, Shinn had earned a
reputation as a faith healer when he recommended a common-sense remedy to a man who later recovered from his illness. Shinn platted Shinn’s Addition to the City and set aside 10 acres of his claim for land that became Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Dr. Enos Lowe (2)

Dr. Enos Lowe, a medical doctor from Indiana, was one of the organizers of the Council Bluffs and Nebraska Ferry Company. The Company, of which Lowe served as president, undertook the platting of the new settlement of Omaha. Lowe remained active in City affairs and was one of the local men chosen to go to New York City and plead Omaha’s case for location of the Union Pacific bridge at the City. Location of the bridge here assured Omaha’s future as a railroad town, and also assured profits to all the businessmen who could supply the railroad. Dr. Lowe later served as president of the Omaha Gas Manufacturing Company, and vice president of the State Bank of Nebraska.

John A. Horbach (4)

John A. Horbach made his living outfitting wagon trains and western travelers. Omaha was an important transfer point of goods from steamer to wagon train and Horbach served as a middleman. He became wealthy from his numerous real estate investments in the City, especially Horbach’s 1st and 2nd additions, platted north of Nicholas Street from 11th to 24th Streets. Positions as a director or stockholder of the Omaha Motor Railway Company, the Omaha and Grant Smelting Company, and the Merchants National Bank further indicate Horbach’s involvement in local affairs. He served on the City Council in 1870 and 1871.

Frederick Metz (18)

Frederick Metz, his brother Charles, and son Frederick Jr., operated one of the first breweries in Omaha, located at 6th and Leavenworth. The brewery was established in 1861 and taken over by the Metz brothers in 1864.
Charles Carroll Belden (9)

Charles C. Belden was the president of Thompson, Belden and Company, a downtown department store that was located at 16th and Howard Streets. Belden worked his way up in store management from a general store helper at age 14 to become a partner in the business. Belden and Henry A. Thompson bought their store to Omaha in 1886.

Andrew J. Hanscom (11)

Andrew Jackson Hanscom earned his law degree in Michigan and came through Council Bluffs on his way to the California gold fields in 1849. After various enterprises in Council Bluffs, he came to Omaha in 1854 and became Speaker of the first House of Representatives in the territorial legislature. In that position, Hanscom recognized only those who agreed with him, and thus was able to secure for Omaha the designation of territorial capital. One historian said Hanscom would "as soon fight as eat," and was frequently called on for help when "there was likely to be trouble, and either in fisticuffs, debate, or tactics, he generally succeeded in coming out of the affair on the top of the heap." He was a colorful character who was known as blunt-spoken, and never hesitant to let loose a stream of profanity when provoked. After his first few years in Omaha, Hanscom devoted more time to real estate than law. In 1872, he was able to donate to the City, along with James Megeath, the land that became Hanscom Park.

Byron Reed (13)

Early Omaha realtor Byron Reed opened his successful office in Omaha soon after his arrival in 1855. He later found time to hold office as City Clerk, County Clerk, and member of the City Council in the 1860's and 1870's. He donated Prospect Hill Cemetery to the City after managing it for 20 years. Throughout his lifetime, Reed amassed a collection of rare books, manuscripts, autographs and coins valued at $50,000 in 1893. His real estate trans-
actions and investments made him a wealthy man, and in his will he bequeathed to the City not only a lot at 19th and Harney on which to build a public library, but also his valuable collection.

Ezra Millard (1)

Ezra Millard came to Omaha in 1856 and joined the banking firm of Millard, Calcwell, and Company. Millard was later president of the Omaha National Bank until 1884, when he organized the Commercial National Bank, of which he also served as president. He was a mayor of Omaha in 1869-1870 and a member of the Territorial Council. Millard was also active in encouraging the Union Pacific to locate in Omaha, and later was instrumental in organizing a cable tramway in the City. He platted the Omaha suburb which is named for him.

Megeath Family (7)

The mausoleum is the burial plot of the Megeath family. James D. Megeath settled in Omaha in 1856 and began a large mercantile business, outfitting the Mormon trains that left from Florence. Later Megeath supplied the construction needs of the Union Pacific by developing portable warehouses which followed the laying of the tracks. He invested in real estate soon after his arrival and was later able to donate land to the city for use as Hanscom Park. Megeath participated in politics as a city councilman, county commissioner, speaker of the house in the territorial legislature, and in a later legislature which ratified the state constitution in 1866.

John I. Redick (14)

John I. Redick was a prominent Omaha lawyer who came to the city in 1856. He was known as a shrewd cross examiner and for his successful defense of Governor David Butler in impeachment proceedings in 1870. He was an attorney for both the Union Pacific and Omaha
and Northwestern Railroads during his career. After retirement in 1885, Redick became a
bank president in California, but later returned to Omaha to manage his investments and pro-
erty. Redick married three times and fathered 12 children, at least four of whom followed
their father into the profession of law. The large Redick home at 24th and Pratt streets was
the first home of the University of Omaha in 1909, but was razed eight years later to make
room for a new structure.

Smith S. Caldwell (5)

Smith S. Caldwell arrived in Omaha in 1859 and entered the banking business with
Ezra Millard. He later organized another firm which became the U. S. National Bank
in 1883. Like many other early businessmen Caldwell served as mayor of Omaha and was
active in other enterprises such as the construction of the Grand Central Hotel and the
organization of the Omaha and Southwestern Railroad Company. Caldwell, with Ezra Millard,
platted a subdivision in the northern section of the city between Ohio and Locust Streets,
east of 20th Street.

Henry W. Yates (16)

Henry W. Yates began his banking career in Omaha in 1863, as a bookkeeper and
cashier to the Kountze Brothers Bank, later the First National Bank. He resigned in 1882 to
organize the Nebraska National Bank. Yates built a huge stone castle-like house near
30th and Davenport, where Yates School stands today.

Levi Carter (15)

Levi Carter was the founder of the Carter White Lead Company, organized in 1886.
The company was the successor to the Omaha White Lead Company, the first white lead
works west of Chicago and St. Louis in the 1870's. Carter's widow donated Carter Lake Park
to the City of Omaha.
Harry Deuel (12)

Harry Deuel was involved with transportation in Omaha from the earliest days. He came to the City in 1858 and worked as a steamboat agent for the Hannibal and St. Joseph Packet Line. He became a ticket agent for the Burlington Railroad when it reached Omaha, then later assumed the same position with the Union Pacific. Deuel was also active in county Democratic politics and held office as county auditor and county register of deeds.

Frederick Krug (8)

In 1859, Frederick Krug erected the first brewery in Nebraska, located at 10th and Farnam. Krug brewed and delivered his product from the back room, while his partner ran the bar in front. By the 1890's Krug organized his own company and built a modern facility near 24th and Vinton Streets.

A. J. Poppleton (10)

Andrew Jackson Poppleton arrived in Omaha in 1854 to set up his law office. Poppleton was a strong democrat, who served as mayor of Omaha in 1858, and also as speaker of the house of the territorial legislature, where the "fairness and impartiality" of his rulings was observed by all. Poppleton was one of the most eminent lawyers in the Middle West, and spent many years as the attorney for the Union Pacific Railroad. With John L. Webster, he successfully defended the Ponca Indian Chief Standing Bear in the case which determined that Indians were persons with all the rights of a person within the meaning of the law.

J. H. Millard (3)

Joseph H. Millard was the younger brother of Ezra, and also came to Omaha in 1856. He began business in real estate, but later went to Virginia City and Helena, Montana, operating banks in those mining towns. He returned to Omaha in 1867 and affiliated with
the Omaha National Bank, becoming president of the establishment in 1884. Like his
brother, J. H. Millard also served as mayor of Omaha, but his political career extended
to the United States Senate with the election of 1901. Millard remained in the Senate until
1907 and kept the position of president of Omaha National until 1920.
Anna Wilson and Dan Allen (20)

Dan Allen was a former steamboat owner who came to Omaha in 1866 and for twenty
years ran one of the city's most popular gambling dens. Allen's second floor den was
connected with a pawn shop on the ground floor of the building by a dumb waiter. Patrons
who needed money could send down their valuables and request the cash for their belongings.
A player who won again could redeem his property, paying a heavy interest to the pawnbroker.
Dan Allen's life consort was Anna Wilson, the "queen of the underworld." Anna ran a house
of ill repute but made a fortune in shrewd business and real estate investments. When she
died, her estate totaled nearly a quarter of a million dollars, all dedicated to Omaha hospitals
and orphanages. She also requested that one of the dwellings she had used for a place of
business become a hospital maintained by the city for care of those who could not pay for
hospital services. The city operated this hospital near 10th and Douglas for a number of years.
After Dan Allen died in 1884, Anna erected a handsome monument over his grave. She also
kept the grave greener and strewn with flowers until her death in 1911, when she was buried
beside him.

The Four Boys (21)

The tombstone that consists of four small broken columns is the common grave of four
boys ranging in age from 10 to 19. In 1884, they were rabbit hunting near a powder magazine
located a mile and a half southeast of the railroad station. The powder magazine exploded
and literally blew the boys to pieces. The four broken columns represent the lives of the
boys, killed at such an early age.
Spanish-American War Monument (17)

The statue is a monument to the Spanish-American War veterans buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Fort Omaha graves (19)

The gravestones with crosses are the resting places of Fort Omaha residents. Because the fort lacked a cemetery, arrangements were made for all burials to take place at Prospect Hill.
DESCRIPTION

Overlooking the Missouri River valley, Prospect Hill Cemetery is sited at the crest of a north-south ridgeline. Its 17.25 acres are dotted with upper-story coniferous and deciduous trees and cobblestone streets radiate from a central circular roadway. A two-story caretaker's cottage, constructed of brick with a Spanish tile roof, is located at the cemetery's southern entrance.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Savage, James W. & John T. Bell, History of the City of Omaha, Nebraska. Chicago: Munsell & Co., 1891


LHPC Case No. H1-79-9, APPLICANT Prospect Hill Cemetery Association requests LANDMARK DESIGNATION for 3202 Parker Street (Prospect Hill Cemetery). Area to be designated is shaded.
ORDINANCE NO. 28767

AN ORDINANCE to designate Prospect Hill Cemetery, located at 3202 Parker Street as a Landmark pursuant to the Landmark Heritage Preservation Ordinance of the City of Omaha.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OMAHA

Section 1 That Prospect Hill Cemetery is located at 3202 Parker Street, which is legally described as follows:

The SW¼ of the SE¼ of the NW¼ of Section 9, Township 15N, Range 13E of the 6th Principle Meridian, Douglas County, Nebraska and Tax Lot 33, except the East 20 feet thereof, in the N½ of the NWA of Section 16, Township 15N, Range 13E of the 6th Principle Meridian, Douglas County, Nebraska.

Section 2 That for the reasons recited in Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission Resolution attached hereto as Exhibit I, and made a part hereof as if fully set forth herein, the historical characteristics of Prospect Hill Cemetery are hereby deemed significant and worthy of preservation.

Section 3 That Prospect Hill Cemetery is hereby designated pursuant to Section 4 16 080 of the Omaha Municipal Code, and hereby subject to all of the provisions of the Landmark Heritage Preservation Ordinance of the City of Omaha.

Section 4 That this Ordinance shall be in full force and take effect fifteen (15) days from and after the date of its passage.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMAN

APPROVED BY

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF OMAHA

JUL 18 1979

APPROVED AS TO FORM

CITY ATTORNEY

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original document now on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Buster Brown, City Clerk, City of Omaha
ORDINANCE NO 28747

AN ORDINANCE to designate Prospect Hill Cemetery, located at 3202 Parker Street as a Landmark pursuant to the Landmark Heritage Preservation Ordinance of the City of Omaha

PRESENTED TO COUNCIL

1st Reading JUN 5 1979
Hearing 6-12-79

Hearing JUN 12 1979
Passed 6-19-79

Final Reading JUN 19 1979

Mary Sullivan Cornett

PUBLICATIONS

PUB'N. OF HEARING
Date 6-8-79

PUB'N. OF ORDINANCE
Date 6-29-79
AN ORDINANCE to designate
Prospect Hill Cemetery located at
5225 Parker Street as a Landmark
pursuant to the Landmark Heritage
Preservation Ordinance of the City of
Omaha.

SUMMARY
AN ORDINANCE to designate
Prospect Hill Cemetery located at
5225 Parker Street as a Landmark
pursuant to the Landmark Heritage
Preservation Ordinance of the City of
Omaha.

PASSED June 19, 1979 5-0
APPROVED
AL VETS
5-21-79
MAYOR OF THE
CITY OF OMAHA
MARY GALLIGAN CORNETT
6-19-79 City Clerk.