

VLR-9/9/69 NRHP-11/12/69

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Richmond (in cit.)	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Hollywood Cemetery

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Hollywood Cemetery

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
412 South Cherry Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Richmond

STATE: Virginia CODE: 45 COUNTY: (in cit.) CODE: 760

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="radio"/>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	graveyard	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Hollywood Cemetery Company, Incorporated

STREET AND NUMBER:  
412 South Cherry Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Richmond

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Richmond City Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Broad and Tenth Streets

CITY OR TOWN:  
Richmond

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
45

APPROXIMATE AREA OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 130 acres

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey - Photo-data Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Historic American Buildings Survey

STREET AND NUMBER:  
801 Nineteenth Street, Northwest

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE:  
District of Columbia

CODE:  
08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Hollywood Cemetery is situated on a bluff overlooking the James River directly across from Belle Isle. The soil is composed largely of clay bolstered by a considerable number of gravel beds. A stream fed by Clarke's Spring once cut into the bluff and with its tributaries formed several valleys which give the hilly character to the area. The main valley, running north to south along the eastern side of the burial ground, is flanked on the west by three smaller ones at right angles, giving some formality to the land as seen on the map, but any regular pattern is unnoticeable on actual observation. The river front rises dramatically from the lower eastern stream bed to the high bluff at the western corner, and descends to the river by a series of natural terraces. It is on the lowest terrace that the old James River and Kanawha Canal runs. The stone Gothic chapel is placed at the original gate, a location deemed appropriate due to its being "very favorable to an extensive view of the grounds." Originally the chapel tower itself was the gate house, and a rough stone wall leading up to it was partially finished and planted with ivy to give the effect of a "ruin" --a popular English Picturesque form.

John Notman laid out the roads to follow the contour of the land which produced two advantages: first, the grading and cutting of road beds was practically eliminated, except at two points; second, the possibility of creating views at the natural turns in the roads was increased. Notman recommended that rustic bridges be built over the small ponds created by a dam at the south end; a 1906 description seems to indicate that this was done: "Scattered here and there are a half-dozen lakes, a difference in the elevation of the latter forming in two instances picturesque waterfalls, while ornamental bridges are found where ever the situation suggests them." These ponds and the original bridges have gone and the only identifiable plantings that remain are the magnolias along the former ponds, but the sensitive planning of the drives and walks do remain in the original forty-four acre area and the spirit of Notman's ideas has been retained in the expansion of the burial grounds to the west along the river bluff. The funeral sculpture which has grown up in the hills and valleys also expresses the Romantic theme in their reproductions in stone of classic columns, tree stumps overgrown with ferns, and crosses composed of oak branches tied together with rope. The cemetery is also a text book of the famous Richmond ironwork of which the Gothic iron "cage" surrounding President Monroe's tomb is the most impressive. The plain stone sarcophagus is surrounded by four cast iron screens in the form of large lancet arches flanked by two smaller ones. Corner colonnettes topped by finials support an iron canopy which swells in an ogival curve up to a central three-tiered finial.

A large dry-laid stone pyramid at the north end of the grounds marks the burying place of eighteen thousand Confederate dead.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century   
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>graveyard</u>	
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Invention	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Theater	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Communications	<input type="checkbox"/>	Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>				
		Music	<input type="checkbox"/>				

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Originally named Mount Vernon Cemetery, Hollywood was first planned in 1847 when a group of Richmond business leaders formed a stock company to develop a "rural decorated cemetery" for their city. However, it was not until 1856 that the General Assembly approved the charter of the new company because so much friction has been engendered by adjoining property owners and others who feared adverse effects from the burying ground. By 1860 Hollywood Cemetery was secure in the Richmond scene and was fast becoming the principal and most fashionable burying spot of the city.

The success of Hollywood is due, by a large measure, to its site and plan as laid out by John Notman of Philadelphia. Originally a design for the plan had been forwarded in August, 1847, by a William H. Pratt, an architect and superintending engineer of Green Mount Cemetery, near Baltimore. However, after a short time, Notman was asked to submit "a more complete and precise plan than that which had been furnished by Mr. Pratt." Notman completed his plans in 1848, and the site was ready for dedication in June of 1849. It should be remembered that Notman was a well-known architect and landscaper who had designed three of the cottages at Princeton University as well as Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia and other cemeteries and parks in the middle years of the nineteenth century.

The dates of construction for most of the entrance structures are indeed a mystery, because those specified in Notman's plans were not built. The bell tower of his design was never built, but the present one, to which a chapel was added in 1898, would probably have been acceptable to him. However, Notman's overall plans were followed quite closely as far as plantings, roadways, and to a certain extent in the idea of building up picturesque ponds of water. Today, Hollywood continues to display the "rural" beauty which made it so popular in the nineteenth century. Although the more spectacular aspects of the grounds are gone--the fountains, ponds and the "ruin"--the basic combination of an excellent site and good planning help it to retain its character.

The fascinating array of nineteenth-century tombstones and memorials are an added feature of the Cemetery. The first burial occurred in July of 1848, and since that time Hollywood has been the scene of many interments of famous Virginians and others. In 1858 the General Assembly appropriated the money to have the remains of James Monroe moved to Richmond from New York. This was undertaken, and the remains were reinterred on 5 July 1858, under an elaborate wrought-iron monument. In 1903 the remains of Mrs. Monroe and her daughter were brought to Hollywood and laid by the President's side.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"Mount Vernon Cemetery," Richmond Whig, 17 June 1848.  
 Ashbury Christian, Richmond, Her Past and Present (Richmond, 1912), p. 163.  
Historical Sketch of Hollywood Cemetery (Richmond, 1893).  
 F. J. Dallett, "John Notman, Architect," The Princeton University Library Chronicle, vol. 20 (Spring, 1959), p. 137.  
 Gilberta S. Whittle, "Hollywood," Richmond Times-Dispatch, 14 October 1906.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: September 3, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 45

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman  
 Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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8. Among other famous people buried in Hollywood are President John Tyler and his second wife, Matthew Fontaine Maury, Judge John W. Mason, President Jefferson Davis and his wife, John Randolph of Roanoke, General J.E.B. Stuart, Governor Fitzhugh Lee, and numerous Confederate soldiers.